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# COUNTRY LIFE

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# COUNTRY LIFE

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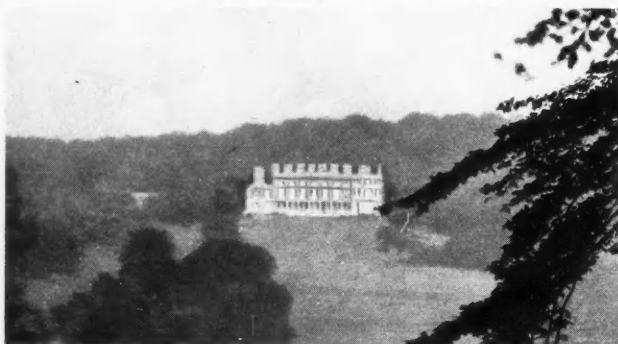
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IN a quiet and secluded position near one of the old-world Wealden Villages, with main line station and bus service to Maidstone (nine miles).

### A MINIATURE ESTATE of 61 acres

with Elizabethan House, rich in old oak, up-to-date farmery, orchards and pasture.

The interior of the House displays the original king post, beams, floors and rafters, and is in excellent order. It has modern conveniences in the way of central heating, electric light, Company's water, and telephone.



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THE accommodation comprises four reception rooms, billiard room, fine old beamed kitchen, six or seven bedrooms (two fitted basins, h. and c.), and two bathrooms. Tudor barn, garage and outbuildings. Well-kept grounds with tennis lawn and wood glade.

The farmery includes an oast house, fruit store, stabling and cowhouses with water and electricity laid on.

There are about fifteen acres of thriving orchards and 45 acres of pasture, intersected by a stream, which has been dammed to form a swimming pool. A pair of cottages are available if desired.

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

## A DELIGHTFUL XVTH CENTURY HOUSE IN SUSSEX

About 40 miles from Town.  
Secluded yet convenient for Station



RETAINING all the old-world characteristics, but completely modernised in perfect keeping. The accommodation comprises three reception rooms, eight bedrooms, two bathrooms, and ample domestic offices. Electric light, central heating, excellent water supply, modern drainage.

Two garages, stabling, kennels, outbuildings.

Attractive and inexpensive gardens, paddocks, in all six-and-a-quarter acres.

**For Sale Freehold**



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FACING South and West with wonderful views to the Malvern Hills. Three reception rooms, five bedrooms, bathroom and complete offices. Company's electricity, telephone, excellent water supply, modern drainage.



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Garage, buildings and cottage. Around the house are flower gardens, lawns and tennis court, kitchen garden and orchards of about FOUR ACRES; there are also

**50 Acres of Pasture**

**PRICE, FREEHOLD, £3,500**

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With excellent service of Express Trains thereto.  
Tonbridge 5 miles, Tunbridge Wells 7 miles, Maidstone 10 miles



THE picturesque old Country House stands in beautifully timbered grounds and contains hall, four reception rooms, twelve bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms and complete offices. Main water, gas, electricity, central heating. Stabling and garage premises. Gardens with tennis lawns, lily pond and productive garden with glasshouses. Also Little Mascalls, a comfortable secondary house in character with the Residence; area FIFTEEN ACRES.

**For Sale Freehold at the Low Price of £3,800  
OR FOR THE HOUSE AND SIX ACRES £2,750**

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Five minutes from a Station  
Close to three Golf Courses



STANDING on gravel soil, facing south and approached by a carriage drive, the House contains hall, lounge, three reception rooms, nine bed and dressing rooms, bathroom and ample domestic offices. Electric light, main water, good drainage, garage.

THE gardens and grounds include grass tennis court, rock garden, flower garden, kitchen garden, small glasshouse and a three-acre meadow; in all FIVE ACRES.

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*Central heating, electric light and well-arranged modernised domestic offices.*

THE GROUNDS OF TWO ACRES ARE PARTICULARLY ATTRACTIVE, though quite inexpensive.



HARD TENNIS COURT (NEW). WALLED KITCHEN GARDEN. STABLING AND GARAGES. TWO COTTAGES.  
EXTENSIVE WOODLANDS AND PASTURE.  
MODERATE PRICE.

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**UNIQUE RESIDENTIAL ESTATE OF 880 ACRES**

800 OF WHICH ARE GLORIOUS COMMON LANDS.

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SIR EDWIN LUTYENS, R.A.,  
*enjoys delightful distant views in all directions.*

Accommodation is planned on two floors :

LOUNGE HALL,  
LONG ROOM,  
DRAWING AND DINING ROOMS,  
STUDY,  
FOURTEEN BED AND DRESSING ROOMS,  
THREE BATHROOMS,  
COMPLETE OFFICES, ETC.



OAK BEAMS AND PANELLING—

QUITE A FEATURE.

*Central heating. Electric light.*

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FOUR COTTAGES. FARMERY.

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FOUR STREAM-FED LAKES, AFFORDING GOOD TROUT FISHING.

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away from all motor traffic and noise, stands in its own well-timbered Park, approached by a long drive with lodge at entrance, and is completely modernised and sumptuously appointed throughout.



It contains a fine suite of entertaining rooms, including a theatre and winter garden, some fifteen bed and dressing rooms, six bathrooms. A lodge at the entrance gates affords extra accommodation for staff.

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**MOST DELIGHTFUL GARDENS AND GROUNDS**

with lawns and shady walks, tea pavilion, swimming pool, kitchen garden and beautiful parklands; in all about

**50 ACRES**

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**FOR SALE WITH EIGHT ACRES**

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### XVth Century Gem

of historical interest, possessing a wealth of original features. It has been carefully restored and modernised and is in first-rate order.

Lounge hall, three reception, seven bedrooms (with fitted lavatory basins), bathroom.

**Company's  
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Central Heating**

**GARAGE** with flat over.

**£200 p.a.**

*Unfurnished on Lease*



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Beautifully placed close to the Downs and Sea.



### Charming Georgian House

of nine bedrooms, etc., in splendid order, with all modern conveniences; and standing in

**HEAVILY TIMBERED PARKLANDS**

Capital farmery. Two cottages.

For Sale at a low price with

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In a good social and agricultural district 30 miles from London.

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**THREE RECEPTION,  
EIGHT BEDROOMS,  
SEVERAL ATTICS.**

**Electric light and modern  
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Garage and Stabling.

Several cottages.

Capital farmhouse.

Two sets of buildings.



**£10,000 WITH 600 ACRES**

**INCLUDING SOME OF THE BEST WHEAT GROWING LAND IN THE COUNTRY**

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In delightful country, close to the Worcester and Herefordshire borders, well placed for all forms of sport.

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recently the home of a well-known stud, where many well-known winners were bred, and comprising first-rate, well-watered pastureland, and woodland.

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stands on an eminence, facing South, with fine views, and is approached by a long carriage drive through a

### WELL-TIMBERED PARK

It is exceptionally well appointed, and contains five reception, eighteen-nineteen bedrooms, four bathrooms, complete offices.

**Electric light.**

**Central heating.**

**Company's water.**

Excellent garage and stabling accommodation.

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**Several Cottages.**

**Stud Farm**

**300 ACRES**

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In the best residential district in the county. Within easy reach of Bury St. Edmund's.



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beautifully placed in the centre of its own parklands, facing South.

Three reception, eight bedrooms, two bathrooms.

**Electric Light  
Central Heating, etc.**

**ALL IN SPLENDID ORDER**

Ample buildings.

**THREE COTTAGES.**

**STATELY OLD GROUNDS**, including walled kitchen garden, orchard, etc.

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In a favourite district near Winchester.



### Attractive Country House

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It stands on a Southern slope, is approached by a drive with **Lodge** entrance, and contains:

Three reception rooms, billiard room, thirteen bedrooms, nurseries, three bathrooms, modern conveniences.

**Stabling.**

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**Small farmery**

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Wild duck.

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facing South on LIGHT SOIL, occupying an exceptionally beautiful position with magnificent views, approached by drive with lodge, and containing: Billiard room, lounge, four reception, six principal bedrooms, four servants' rooms, three bathrooms.

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FOR SALE, FREEHOLD, AT A VERY MODERATE PRICE.

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GENUINE ELIZABETHAN MANOR HOUSE, MODERNISED WITHOUT SPOILING ITS CHARM.

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**EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE ELIZABETHAN RESIDENCE**, containing a **WEALTH OF OLD OAK**. Four reception rooms, garden room, convenient domestic offices, six principal bedrooms, three servants' bedrooms, two bathrooms. Company's water. Excellent drainage. Electric light from own plant. **VERY DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS**, laid out with formal rose garden, spacious lawns, tennis court, kitchen garden, garage for three cars, good outbuildings, two charming cottages. Home farm with superior farmbuildings, orchard, grass and arable land, extending in all to

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Unique opportunity to obtain a Period House at an extremely low price.

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BEAUTIFUL POSITION ON RISING GROUND. FINE VIEWS. UNSPOILED LOCALITY.

CLOSE TO FIRST-CLASS GOLF.

## FINE OLD RESIDENCE.

part dating back 400 years. The subject of huge expenditure.

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FIVE RECEPTION.  
ELEVEN BEDROOMS.  
FIVE BATHROOMS.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.  
CENTRAL HEATING.  
COMPANY'S WATER.

TWO LONG DRIVES, LODGE ENTRANCE.

Stabling and garages.



Large outside hall suitable for any useful purpose.

FARMBUILDINGS AND COTTAGE. Green hard court. Nine-hole putting course.

TENNIS AND CROQUET LAWNS.  
JAPANESE SUMMERHOUSE.

WALLED GARDEN AND ORCHARD, beautiful timber, rich park pasture, intersected by stream.

**ABOUT 30 ACRES FREEHOLD** FOR SALE AT A FIGURE IN STRICT ACCORDANCE WITH TO-DAY'S VALUES.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

## LESS THAN TEN MILES FROM REGENT'S PARK

FIVE MINUTES FROM GOLF COURSE. OVER 400FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL. PREMIER POSITION, ABUTTING VILLAGE GREEN and adjacent to wooded commons.

**MOST BEAUTIFUL OLD RED-BRICK HOUSE** of the Georgian period, with interior characteristics. Money has been lavished upon it during the past few years. The interior decoration is superb, and it is ready to occupy without any expenditure whatever. **FOUR VERY FINE RECEPTION, ELEVEN BEDROOMS, FOUR BATHROOMS: ALL MAIN SERVICES LAID ON THROUGHOUT: LAVATORY BASINS AND RADIATORS ALL OVER THE HOUSE.** Garages, extensive stabling, gardener's cottage. **LOVELY OLD GARDENS**, matured with age, subject of great care and attention for many years. Old lawns, tennis courts, ornamental water, rock gardens, walled kitchen garden and orchard, wooded pinneys, well-timbered grassland.

**ABOUT FIFTEEN ACRES.**

**SOMETHING QUITE EXCEPTIONAL.**—Very highly recommended by CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

## PEMBURY SANDSTONE RIDGE

MAIN LINE SERVICE IN 45 MINUTES: PANORAMIC VIEWS FOR MANY MILES.

**EXCEPTIONALLY FINE RED BRICK HOUSE**, the subject of an enormous expenditure. Entirely remodelled by eminent Architect. Beautifully appointed, luxurious fittings. Completely on two floors. Ready to occupy at once without further outlay. Long drive with lodge. Heavily timbered parkland. **FOUR RECEPTION, SUN PARLOUR, PARQUET FLOORS, TWELVE BEDROOMS, FOUR BATHROOMS, H. & C. WATER EVERYWHERE. UNIQUE TILED OFFICES ACENTATING MINIMUM STAFF. ALL MAIN SERVICES LAID ON.** Stabling, garage, lodge, three cottages, loggia. **PLEASANT GARDENS OF GREAT BEAUTY AND REFINEMENT**, lawns for tennis and croquet, specimen trees and shrubs, lily pond with water garden, walled kitchen garden, fully stocked, lake, rich grass parkland.

**ABOUT 140 ACRES (MORE IF REQUIRED).**

Excellent golf in the vicinity.—Owner's Agents, CURTIS and HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

EQUIDISTANT FROM CIRENCESTER & MALMESBURY  
FOUR MILES FROM MAIN LINE STATION—ONE-AND-A-HALF HOUR'S RAIL.

**MOST BEAUTIFUL OLD COTSWOLD HOUSE**, built of stone, with mullioned windows, stone tiled roof, drip stones and leaded lights. Huge sums have been spent in complete modernisation. Delightful situation, 350ft. above sea level, facing due south. Three reception, **NINE BEDROOMS**—principal fitted with h. and c. Three bathrooms; **ELECTRIC LIGHT**, independent hot water, water supply and drainage. Stabling for hunters, large building suitable as model cowhouse or further stabling, garage, two cottages. **UNIQUE GARDENS**, well timbered, charming rose garden, walled kitchen garden, stone paving, tennis lawn, rich pasture, water in every field.

**OVER SEVENTEEN ACRES**

**JUST PLACED IN THE MARKET. WOULD LET FOR HUNTING SEASON.**

Centre of BEAUFORT and V.W.H. HOUNDS. Polo and golf.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

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London under 60 miles by road. Favourite sporting locality.

RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE.



The Residence is of the Georgian period; two long drives. Five reception rooms, billiard room, nine principal bedrooms, five bathrooms.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.  
CENTRAL HEATING.  
GARAGE FOR FOUR CARS.

Two lodges, home farm with seven cottages. Lake of four-and-a-half acres.

TROUT FISHING in river which intersects the Estate for about a mile. Shooting over large area available if required.

**OVER 150 ACRES**

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JUST OVER HALF-AN-HOUR FROM CITY AND WEST END.

## BEAUTIFUL SURREY HILLS

New Electric Service. Southern slope. 350ft. up. Overlooking private park. FINE OLD RESIDENCE.

DATING FROM REIGN OF KING CHARLES I. ERECTED AFTER PLANS BY

INIGO JONES. Mellowed red brick, interesting features. Four reception, Eleven bedrooms, Three bathrooms. Electric light. Central heating. Co.'s water. Every convenience. Recently entirely renovated and repaired.



STABLING AND GARAGES. TWO COTTAGES. **MOST BEAUTIFUL OLD MATURED GARDENS.** Lawns, handsome timber, PICTURESQUE CEDARS OF LEBANON, tennis and croquet, walled kitchen garden, ponds, parkland.

**20 ACRES** COULD BE PURCHASED WITH LESS LAND OR TAKEN ON LEASE. Close to the kennels of famous Hunt and several good golf courses.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.



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BEAUTIFUL HOUSE OF THE XVTH CENTURY.

Lovely oak panelling and beams. Thirteen bedrooms, four bathrooms, four reception rooms; electric light, central heating, ample water; garages, two cottages, outbuildings. DELIGHTFUL OLD-WORLD GARDENS.

ABOUT 80 ACRES.

FREEHOLD PRICE £6,700.

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Splendid hunting with the Grafton.



**A BEAUTIFUL XVTH CENTURY MANOR HOUSE.** All the exquisite features of this fine period. Sixteen bedrooms, six bathrooms, four reception rooms. Electric light, central heating, independent hot water. Hunter stabling of eight boxes. WELL-TIMBERED OLD-WORLD GARDENS. Ornamental water spanned by old stone bridge.

ABOUT 40 ACRES.

LEASE FOR DISPOSAL. MODERATE PREMIUM. Agents, WILSON & Co., 14, Mount Street, W.1.

#### SOUTH DORSET

Station one mile, sea two miles. On the outskirts of a beautiful old town.



**A DIGNIFIED GEORGIAN HOUSE OF MEDIUM SIZE.** Fifteen bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, four reception rooms; oak-panelled walls, parquet flooring, period fireplaces; electric light. Company's water and gas, central heating, independent hot water; garages, chauffeur's house, stabling, lodge, five cottages; beautiful well-timbered old gardens. Splendid hunting, shooting and fishing.

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FREEHOLD for SALE, or might be Let. Unfurnished. — Personally inspected by the Owner's Sole Agents, WILSON and Co., 14, Mount Street, W.1.

#### 22 MILES FROM LONDON

RURAL POSITION. HIGH UP. GRAVEL SOIL.



NEAR SEVERAL GOLF COURSES. Sixteen bedrooms, five bathrooms, four reception rooms, billiard room, excellent offices. MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT, GAS AND WATER. Two lodges, garage, stabling, cottage. LOVELY GARDENS and GROUNDS, many magnificent trees, meadows.

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Unique position 300ft. above sea level; south aspect and lovely unspoiled views to the Hog's Back and Devil's Punchbowl in Surrey; 33 miles from London; complete freedom from traffic and other noises; accessible but perfectly quiet and secluded.

#### A MODERN AND ELEGANTLY APPOINTED TUDOR-STYLE RESIDENCE

Beautifully placed in a grandly timbered park; approached by a drive half-a-mile long; improved regardless of cost, in splendid order and possessing a handsome interior.

Fine suite of four reception rooms, including oak-panelled dining and billiard rooms and an oak-panelled lounge 17ft. high. Model domestic offices, studio with north light, fourteen bed and dressing rooms, five bathrooms; electric light, central heating, main water, fixed wash-basins in principal bedrooms. Entrance lodge, gardener's house, cottage, garage and stabling, chauffeur's cottage; squash rackets court, hard tennis court, two grass tennis courts, ornamental lake and swimming pool.

#### LOVELY OLD GROUNDS

with a magnificent collection of rare trees and flowering shrubs. Long South terrace overlooking the park. Ample sheltered on North side by woods.

#### HOME FARM

with an excellent house; and adequate set of buildings.



FOR SALE WITH 150 (OR 32) ACRES AT MUCH BELOW ACTUAL COST

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### VERY COMFORTABLE EARLY GEORGIAN HOUSE. IN A FAVOURITE PART OF WILTSHIRE

ADDITIONS BY ERNEST NEWTON, R.A.

On south-west slope: 300ft. up: entrance on quiet road between two quiet villages: on rich sandy loam—subsoil greensand.

Billiard and four reception rooms of moderate size, facing south. Fine oak staircase, panelled hall, sixteen bed and two dressing rooms, three bathrooms, excellent modern offices.

Central heating. Modern drainage. Ample water.

Convenient communications: motor buses pass entrance. G.W. Ry. main line station one mile.

To south: open view to Salisbury Plain over terrace, lawns and naturally undulating grasslands, with fine trees.



To west: below carefully planted hillside a pond fed by small stream gradually falling through garden in little waterfalls and pools, discharges into old mill brook. Rose gardens, productive old walled kitchen garden. Stabling, garage, three cottages, farmery.

HUNTING with Avon Vale, South and West Wilts and Tidworth.

GOLF AND ROUGH SHOOTING AVAILABLE.

THE ESTATE COMPRISES ABOUT

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600FT. UP ON SAND AND GRAVEL.

ONE MILE MAIN LINE STATION AND 40 MILES FROM LONDON.

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containing:

SIX RECEPTION ROOMS. ABOUT 40 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS.  
COMPLETE DOMESTIC OFFICES.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT. EXCELLENT WATER SUPPLY.  
MODERN DRAINAGE. CENTRAL HEATING.

EXCELLENT STABLING AND GARAGE BUILDING  
with rooms over.

ENTRANCE LODGE.

#### FAMOUS GARDENS

WITH RARE AND BEAUTIFUL SHRUBS AND TREES.

LAKE OF ABOUT THREE ACRES.

ABOUT 70 ACRES IN ALL

(MORE OR LESS LAND AS REQUIRED.)

AN IDEAL PLACE FOR A SCHOOL OR HOTEL.

PRICE £12,500

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450FT. UP AMONGST THE COTSWOLDS

#### CHARMING COTSWOLD STONE RESIDENCE

thoroughly modernised and beautifully appointed, containing three reception rooms, complete offices, eighteen bed and dressing rooms, five fitted bathrooms, etc.; electric light, central heating, independent hot water supply.

LODGE, FIVE COTTAGES,  
STABLING, GARAGE.

THE ESTATE  
comprising  
1,500 ACRES



IS FOR SALE AS A WHOLE OR DIVIDED, OR WOULD BE LET, FURNISHED, ON A SHORT OR LONG TERM WITH SHOOTING.

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**CHARMING CHARACTER RESIDENCE. FREEHOLD £3,500**  
MAGNIFICENT VIEWS. 30 MILES OF TOWN.  
Eight bedrooms, three bath, three reception rooms. Co.'s water. Electric light.  
Central heating. Garage.  
DELIGHTFUL GARDEN WITH TENNIS LAWN, ORCHARD, KITCHEN GARDEN, PASTURELAND.  
**IN ALL ABOUT 21 ACRES**  
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**LOVELY OLD ELIZABETHAN COTTAGE**  
HIGH AND SECLUDED POSITION. ONE HOUR OF TOWN.  
Five bedrooms, bathroom, three reception rooms. ELECTRIC LIGHT.  
EXCELLENT WATER SUPPLY. GARAGE. DELIGHTFUL WELL-STOCKED GARDEN AND MEADOWLAND; in all about  
**FIVE ACRES. PRICE ONLY £2,750**  
Highly recommended by the Sole Agents, RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

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**PRICE, FREEHOLD, £6,950.**

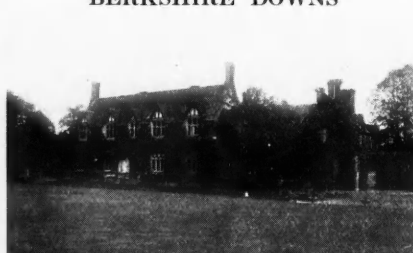
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**GENUINE TUDOR RESIDENCE** with about 190 acres. In a beautiful rural district, away from motor traffic, standing high in the centre of its own lands and commanding glorious panoramic views. First-rate sporting facilities: HUNTING, SHOOTING, POLO, GOLF, FISHING are available. Everything is in splendid order. ELECTRIC LIGHT THROUGHOUT. Hall (26ft. by 16ft.) with oak-panelled walls, three sitting rooms, six bedrooms, bathroom. Farmbuildings, garage and stabling, three cottages.—Inspected and recommended by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W. 1. (L.R. 11,654.)

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**THIS FASCINATING OLD STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE**, dating from the XVth century, ten minutes by car from quiet old market town, 20 minutes from G.W.R. main line station; fast trains to London. Four sitting rooms, twelve bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, servants' hall; stabling and two garages, four cottages; about 33 acres. Price, freehold, £6,000.

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NEARLY 500FT. UP. ENJOYING PANORAMIC VIEWS.



Hall, four reception rooms, nine bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms; modern comforts; garage for five cars, capital entrance lodge; charming gardens and grounds with lawns, kitchen garden and natural woodland.

GAZE'S HARD TENNIS COURT.

**ABOUT THIRTEEN-AND-A-HALF ACRES**

FOR SALE AT A LOW PRICE.

Sole Agents, CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W. 1.

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#### DEVONSHIRE

BEAUTIFUL POSITION



Lounge, four reception and billiards room, eleven bedrooms, three bathrooms; modern conveniences; stabling, garages, two lodges; finely timbered grounds and pasture.

**ABOUT 40 ACRES**

LOW PRICE FOR QUICK SALE.

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**ONLY £3,250 WITH 56 ACRES. Circa 1580.**



#### A PERFECT TUDOR RESIDENCE

In one of the most favourite districts of Suffolk. Large hall, three reception rooms, six bedrooms, two bathrooms.

ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES.

Two garages, stabling, excellent farmbuildings; charming gardens and grounds, bounded by a stream, eight acres of soft fruit and pastureland.

**WOULD SELL WITH THIRTEEN ACRES AT £2,500.**

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URGENTLY REQUIRED TO PURCHASE.

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A CITY GENTLEMAN wishes to BUY a well-appointed RESIDENCE with about ten bedrooms, three or four bathrooms and really attractive old gardens, together with 50 to 150 ACRES of parklands to provide absolute seclusion, privacy and quietude. The House must stand high and be within five miles of a station affording a good daily service of trains to London.—Full details to Messrs. COLLINS & COLLINS, 37, South Audley Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

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**2,000-3,000 ACRES AGRICULTURAL LAND WANTED**, preferably in Hants or Berks. The Property is required solely for Investment by Trustees and not for re-sale or development. An Estate showing a low rate of interest would be considered if the lands are well farmed. Usual commission required.—ALFRED PEARSON & SON, Surveyors, Fleet, Hants. (Tel. 118.)



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### REMARKABLY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL ESTATE OF 145 ACRES

UNDER ONE HOUR SOUTH OF LONDON. EASY REACH OF THE COAST.

SUPERBLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE.

A BRIGHT AND SUNNY HOUSE ON A HILL, 300 FT. UP.

EXTENSIVE VIEWS.

SANDY SOIL.

SOUTH ASPECT.



Twelve beds (lavatory basins fitted), four modern tiled bathrooms, four reception rooms, sun parlour. Loggia. TWO FLOORS ONLY. COMPANY'S ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. Independent hot water system. Parquet floors. Modern sanitary appointments. Tiled domestic offices. The House has been the subject of expenditure of several thousands of pounds in the last few months. IN PERFECT ORDER. Minimum of staff required. HEAVILY TIMBERED PARK. WALLED KITCHEN GARDEN. DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS. A Home Farm can be purchased in addition if required.

#### FREEHOLD FOR SALE

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### 550 FEET UP, MAGNIFICENT VIEWS, FACING SOUTH. EXCEPTIONAL GARDENS



TWELVE BED AND DRESSING ROOMS,

FOUR BATHROOMS,

THREE RECEPTION AND BILLIARD ROOMS.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

CENTRAL HEATING.

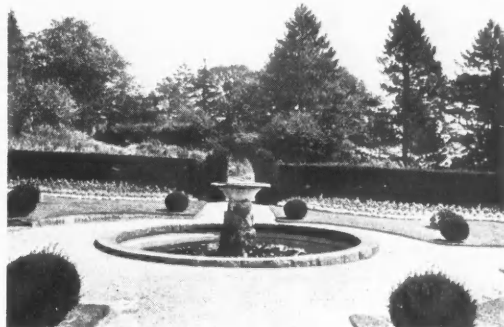
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LODGE, TWO COTTAGES.

SMALL MODEL HOME FARM

Terraced and woodland gardens.

EXCELLENT GOLF.



THIS CHOICE MINIATURE ESTATE OF 60 ACRES FOR SALE ON VERY MODERATE TERMS.

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### EIGHT MILES FROM WINCHESTER

#### THIS ATTRACTIVE EARLY TUDOR FARMHOUSE

has been renovated exceptionally carefully, and a heavily timbered barn incorporated into the house.

The ACCOMMODATION comprises the LOUNGE,

TWO RECEPTION,

EIGHT BED AND DRESSING

and

FOUR BATHROOMS

(partly arranged in suites).



ELECTRIC LIGHT.

CENTRAL HEATING.

EXCELLENT WATER.

GARAGE.

STABLING.

TWO COTTAGES.

The River Itchen runs through the garden and affords a

SHORT STRETCH OF FISHING.

FIVE ACRES IN ALL

FREEHOLD, FOR SALE, INCLUDING ALL THE VALUABLE FURNITURE

THIS IS A PARTICULARLY INTERESTING OLD HOUSE IN PERFECT ORDER.

Details from the Sole Agents, FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., as above.

**RENFREWSHIRE, SCOTLAND.—CRAIGENDS.** Within the district hunted by the Renfrewshire Hounds. —To LET, with early possession, the west wing of Craigends House: three reception, eight bedrooms, servants' accommodation and usual offices; electric light and central heating; garage, stabling, etc.—For further particulars apply HOLMES, MACKILLOP & Co., Solicitors and Estate Agents, Johnstone.

**WARWICKSHIRE.—To be LET, THE RECTORY FARM, SOUTHAM.** 131 ACRES nearly all grass. Equipped as a model farm with new buildings since the war; excellent water supply; moderate-sized House in first-rate order adjoining main road; hunting with the Warwickshire and adjoining packs. A very attractive farm for a model dairy or pedigree stock. Vacant possession in March, 1935. For further particulars apply THE RECTOR, Rectory, Southam, Warwickshire.

**FOR SALE** in a favourite locality on the borders of Hampshire and Sussex, a small Freehold SPORTING AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE: good farmhouse, suitable for shooting box; seven cottages; 520 acres, including 160 acres woodland.—Price and full particulars may be obtained of the Sole Agents, HALL, PAIN & FOSTER, 57, Commercial Road, Portsmouth.

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MUSEUM 7000.

### OF SPECIAL APPEAL TO GARDEN LOVERS SOUTH DEVON

Glorious position in the midst of luxurious grounds with views extending over the sea and surrounding picturesque country.  
SOUTH ASPECT. FIVE MILES OF THE COAST. FISHING. HUNTING. SHOOTING.

#### ULTRA MODERN GEORGIAN-TYPE RESIDENCE,

SPECIALLY PLANNED AND BUILT, AND EQUIPPED WITH FITTED HAND BASINS (H. and C.);  
CENTRAL HEATING, ELECTRIC LIGHT, SPLENDID WATER, ETC.

#### Accommodation:

SEVEN BEDROOMS, TWO BATHROOMS, THREE RECEPTION ROOMS, USUAL OFFICES,  
GARAGE (two to three cars), ENTRANCE LODGE AND DRIVE.

#### MAGNIFICENT GROUNDS

laid out at an enormous cost, but inexpensive to maintain, and containing numerous fine specimen trees and shrubs, cork trees, Japanese maple, bamboo, azaleas, rhododendrons, etc.; water garden with cascades and pools; tropical garden, tennis court and paddocks, etc.; in all about

TWELVE TO THIRTEEN ACRES

TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD

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ESTATE AGENTS,  
SURVEYORS AND AUCTIONEERS,  
ALBION CHAMBERS, KING STREET,  
Telegrams: "Brutons Gloucester." GLOUCESTER.  
Telephone No.: 2267 (2 lines).

**ON THE COTSWOLDS.**—To be SOLD, substantially built RESIDENCE, approximately 600ft. above sea level, commanding magnificent views. Lounge hall, two reception, four or five bedrooms, bathroom. Electric light, telephone, central heating. Attractive garden; about three-quarters of an acre. Vacant possession. Price £2,000.—Particulars of BRUTON, KNOWLES & Co., Estate Agents, Gloucester. (H 310.)

**ON THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE BORDERS** (in the Ledbury Hunt).—To be SOLD, pleasing RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, about 330ft. above sea level, facing south. Hall, three reception, billiard room, eight bed and dressing rooms, bathroom. Garage and stabling. Attractive grounds; two enclosures of pastureland; total area, about five acres. Vacant possession. Price £3,000.—Particulars of BRUTON, KNOWLES and Co., Estate Agents, Gloucester. (P 67.)

**ON THE COTSWOLDS.**—To be SOLD, a particularly attractive RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY standing at the head of a beautiful Cotswold Valley, within three miles of golf links and in an excellent hunting district. Hall, three reception, twelve bed and dressing, two bath rooms; electric light, central heating, good water supply. Stabling, garage, cottage; about 22½ acres. Price £5,000 or with twelve acres and exclusive of cottage, £4,700. Further 22 acres of land available.—Particulars of BRUTON, KNOWLES and Co., Estate Agents, Gloucester. (O 71.)

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REDUCED PRICE £1,500.

**STONE-BUILT AND STONE-TILED HOUSE**, dating from the XVth century, facing south-east, on light soil, with good views; stone mullions and oak beams; seven rooms (including two about 27ft. by 14ft.); bath; electric light; stabling, garage, studio; old gardens and two small paddocks; about TWO ACRES.—W. HUGHES & SON, LTD., Bristol. (18,948.)

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**TO LET AT £80 PER ANNUM.**—Fine well-situated RESIDENCE; four reception, nine bed and dressing, bath (h. and c.); electric light; garage; easily maintained gardens. Would be sold with up to 35 acres of land, £3,250. (18,019 A.)

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**SOMERSET.**—Old thatched COTTAGE RESIDENCE, with lovely views; three reception, six bed, bath (h. and c.). Large garden of about one acre. Hunting with four packs.

PRICE £2,100.

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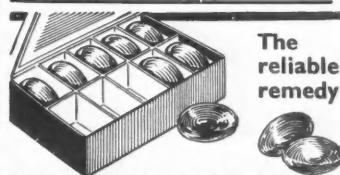
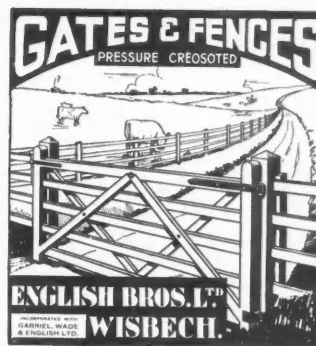
### THE LARGE BLACK PIG SOCIETY.

—Sir Edward Mann, Bt. (President), occupied the Chair at the thirty-sixth annual general meeting of members of the Large Black Pig Society. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the Report of the Council and statement of accounts for the Society's financial year ended September 30th last, referred to evident signs of the breed recovering from the severe setback it received through being unfairly penalised under the Pigs Marketing Scheme. It was pleasing to be able to report the adjustment of this penalty for the 1935 contract. Notwithstanding faults which could be rectified as experience is gained, the Scheme was of great value and must not be allowed to collapse. There still appeared some doubt as to its future, the latest scare being that Nemesis, in the form of too few contracts, had overtaken some factories; but it was hoped and believed that these would secure, through the supplementary contract recently opened, the pigs they require to ensure economical working in 1935. At the same time, it was necessary for the curers concerned to realise that their present insufficiency of contracts amounted to a vote of censure for past misdeeds. It was essential for the success of the Scheme that it should work harmoniously with a spirit of give-and-take on all sides. The curers could not have it all their own way, any more than producers. Perhaps, however, the proposed Pigs and Bacon Development Board, when established, would provide that measure of balance which was so necessary but which appeared to be missing at the moment in the negotiations between the Pigs Board as the producers' representatives and the Bacon Board as representing the curers. It was a matter for congratulation that, despite the difficulties which the Large Black had been facing, the membership of the Society was so well maintained, although the membership did not nearly reflect the commercial popularity of the breed. The existence of any breed, whether horses, cattle, sheep or pigs, depended upon commercial utility. Could it be said, so far as pigs are concerned, that there is any more popular commercial breed than the Large Black? The Large White had had a wonderful time and would continue to be in demand to provide sires. The Large Black came into the scheme of things by providing quiet, prolific grazing mothers whose progeny by the Large White bore a wonderfully quick-growing feeder ready for bacon purposes at early age. The export trade for Large Blacks appeared to be looking up, shipments having recently gone to Cyprus, Italy, Chile, France, Spain, and South Africa, with further enquiries pending from Canada and South Africa. Congratulations were due to Mr. T. L. Ward, who was doing so much through actual demonstration at the London Dairy Show and elsewhere to impress upon pig breeders and feeders of the value of the Large White—Large Black cross. The records of the two litters which Mr. Ward bred and fed for the last Dairy Show were remarkable. He not only produced champion bacon through this cross, but did it with records of fecundity and weight-for-age which must appeal to the producer who is out for the greatest margin of profit. There was no question of despising the merits of any pure breed, but there was plenty of evidence, much of it of a recent nature, to show that those who were pinning their faith to the Large Black were pointing a way that many more people might usefully follow to their own advantage. Upon the proposal of Mr. G. A. Goodchild, Sir Edward Mann was unanimously re-elected President of the Society for the ensuing year. The following officers were also unanimously re-elected: Vice-Presidents—The Earl of Dartmouth, Sir Arthur G. Haderigg, Bt., Mr. F. W. Gilbert, Mr. Frank Sainsbury, and Captain D. M. Wills; hon. treasurer, Captain Wilfrid Bruce, C.B.E.; auditors, Messrs. Gibson Harris, Prince and Co., *Herd Competition*.—The Chairman formally presented to Mr. F. Smith (representing the Earl of Dartmouth) the Society's Herd Competition Challenge Cup won by Lord Dartmouth's Patshull Herd in the 1934 competition. *Control of Pork Imports*.—Mr. E. A. Warth referred to the position of the producer of pork and expressed the opinion that, due to the rapidly expanding volume of imports of pork and pork products, there was grave danger of a price collapse. He urged that, notwithstanding the importance and value of the Pigs and Bacon Marketing Schemes, the producer of pork had as much right to be given protection from the evils of excessive imports as the

producer of bacon pigs; that the control of imports of pork on a proper basis, with agreed quotas to all countries exporting to the home market, was in the best interests of all concerned; that it was opportune to draw attention to the reservation in the Report of the Reorganisation Commission for Pigs and Pig Products by Sir William S. Haldane; and to the resolution adopted by the Large Black Pig Society on December 7th, 1932, requesting the Minister of Agriculture to give every assistance he can to the marketing and developing of the pork branch of the pig industry in this country. Mr. Warth, therefore, moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. G. A. Goodchild and carried unanimously: "That this General Meeting of the Large Black Pig Society desires to draw the attention of the Minister of Agriculture and the President of the Board of Trade to the seriousness of the position of the home producer of pork and pork products through the rapidly increasing volume of imports of these commodities from the Dominions and Foreign Countries and urge that immediate steps be taken, through the establishment of a Pork Board or otherwise, to control such imports so as to obviate the danger of a price collapse which must be the inevitable result of an over-supplied market and which must react to the detriment of the home producer."

**BRITISH FRIESIAN CATTLE SOCIETY.**—*Council Meeting—Many New Members.*—At the above Society's Council meeting held in London, Mr. G. M. Strutt (President) in the Chair, fifty-one new members were elected. The President stated that the recent increased demand for the breed and the many new members obtained since the meeting of two months previously combined to make a happy augury for the future. Sympathetic reference was made to the loss the breed, the Society and the Council had sustained by the death of their colleague Mr. William Marriage. From the Publicity Committee Mr. G. B. Radcliffe, Chairman, reported an expenditure of £2,500 on propaganda work in 1934. Congratulations were ordered to be conveyed to Mr. Cecil Hall upon the unique performance of his cow Oakland Daisy in winning the individual championship at the Dairy Show for the second time; to Mr. Arthur Barber upon winning the Silcock Cup National Dairy Herds Competition; and to Mr. L. G. Burr on again doing best in the B.O. and C.M. contests. From the Herd Book Committee, Mr. Strutt, Chairman, announced that consideration was still being given to the questions of excluding from the Supplementary Register every animal, however exceptional its individual merit, that was not thoroughly representative of the best British Friesian type; and of allowing no exceptions to the condition that bull calves with black hair spots on the feet could not have their entries registered in the Herd Book. The manner in which the new National butter-fat scheme could be dovetailed into methods previously in existence was considered in conjunction with cows whose lactation periods were only partly covered by the new scheme; and it was decided that, whatever butter-fat percentage figures were approved by milk recording societies should be recognised by the British Friesian Cattle Society. Mr. Ernest B. Hall, Chairman of the Show and Sale Committee, stated that the class for British Friesian in-calf cows at the Royal Show would not now be disallowed by the Royal Agricultural Society. The question of debarring any animal from winning more than one of the Society's Show championship medals in one season was deferred for future consideration. From the Finance Committee, Mr. F. W. Gilbert, Chairman, reported that the reduction of fees for registering entries of females in the Herd Book had been discussed at length; and Council decided to reduce the fee from 10s. to 5s., the reduction to take immediate effect. A further donation was made to the funds of the Animal Diseases Research Association. Council unanimously and enthusiastically agreed to ask Lady MacRobert to become the Society's President-elect.

**SHROPSHIRE SHEEP FOR CANADA.**—The Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society have recently issued export certificates for three ram lambs, sired by Eytton Barface, 16272, and Eytton Demon, 16056, and a shearing ram sired by Eytton Ternhill, 16113, for exportation to the Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, from the famous flock of Mr. E. C. Tanner of Eytton-on-Severn, Shropshire.



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Ch. Loga of the Arctic, owned by Miss Keyte-Perry, Oak Hall, Haslemere, Surrey

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As these dogs are for their owners often the only means of getting back to food and shelter, it can be readily understood that the Samoyede people greatly prize and carefully tend them, and it is probably this continued attention which has helped to develop them into the desirable house dogs they are to-day.

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The drawing above is of Ch. Loga of the Arctic, which is owned by Miss Keyte-Perry of Oak Hall, Haslemere, Surrey. Miss Keyte-Perry has every right to call her kennels "The House of Champions," for it now houses nine full champions, and all the young stock kept in the kennels are potential champions.

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## KENNEL NOTES

THE more one sees of other shows, the more one realises the magnitude of Cruft's, which is unique of its kind, alike in the number of entries and the crowds of spectators. We have had an opportunity of seeing an advance copy of the schedule of the forthcoming show on February 6th-7th, which in itself is as big as the catalogues of some of the shows.

The classification is so enormous and the special prizes offered to exhibitors so many that many pages are necessary to enumerate them all. The first thing of importance that strikes one, naturally, is that the entries close on Monday, January 21st, and intending exhibitors should lose no time in writing to the secretary at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N., for a copy. It seems curious that every year many entries have to be returned through the carelessness of exhibitors who fail to remember the exact date, and it should be generally understood that no late entries can be accepted, this being a regulation of the Kennel Club that cannot be waived.

Perhaps there is no other show that attracts so many new exhibitors. In reading through the catalogue one invariably comes across names that are not ordinarily known in the show world. Among them it is pleasant to record, they take a very fair share of the awards, which is ample justification of their enterprise. Experience has proved, times without number, that many dogs of great excellence are in private possession and may only be shown by chance, when their true worth is discovered. Anyone who has bought a well-bred puppy and reared it carefully may be amply recompensed by entering it at Cruft's. The cost is not much if it fails to win, and if it should gain a prize there its value goes up enormously. It should be noted that the classes are so graded that lesser-known dogs have a reasonable chance of winning in many of them without coming up against the aristocrats of the breed. The entry fee for each dog per class is only 12s. 6d. Gamekeepers have the opportunity of competing in the classes for the Gamekeepers' Association at a reduced entry of 10s. The prize money offered in each class is 50s., 25s., and 12s. 6d., except in those specially put on for members of Cruft's Dog Show Society, where the prizes are £3, £2, and £1.

One of the features of this show is the provision made for Gundogs, all the breeds and varieties coming under this heading receiving almost elaborate classification under some of the most

competent judges of the day. We take it for granted that cocker spaniels, Labradors, Irish setters, English springers and golden retrievers will turn out well at any important show, but at Cruft's they are sometimes overwhelming, and those who are to judge them require to have exceptional physique to enable them to stand the strain. Cocker spaniels have sixty-three classes allotted to them, and, by the time he has got through them, Mr. D. McDonald will no doubt be glad of a rest. Other breeds of Gundogs that are seldom particularly well represented at the majority of shows seem to make a special effort for Cruft's. No doubt their owners are tempted in part by a generous classification, and they also have the knowledge that a win here is of outstanding importance and that many thousands of critical spectators, all interested in sport, will be in attendance.

Those handsome dogs, the English setters, usually do better here than elsewhere, and the same remark applies to pointers, which are becoming more general at shows now. Irish water spaniels are exclusive, being in but few hands, yet such as there are betray evidences of high breeding, and we shall be sure to see some uncommonly fine specimens in February. Next to cocker spaniels, Irish setters seem to have captured the imagination of exhibitors, especially the feminine portion, which is now the more influential of the two sexes.

Croftdown Colin, the red dog illustrated to-day, is the property of Mrs. Morse of The Croft, Swindon, who is a member of Cruft's Dog Show Society. He is a representative specimen of his kind, having been awarded three challenge certificates under three different judges, and on various occasions he has been best of all breeds in a show. Altogether, he has won over sixty prizes, specials and silver cups. The beautiful outline and kindly expression of the breed are well shown in this picture, which represents a typical pose for one of the setter kind. One can see that he is constructed for galloping, and it is this formation that enables the breed to cover the ground with the least possible exertion. For the rough country that is to be found in many parts of Ireland red setters are preferred because of their enduring properties. It used to be said that they were headstrong, but that, at least, means they have determination and grit. A writer at the beginning of last century recorded that setters were the favourite sporting dogs in Ireland, but he did not tell us to which variety they belonged.



BENCH CH. CROFTDOWN COLIN

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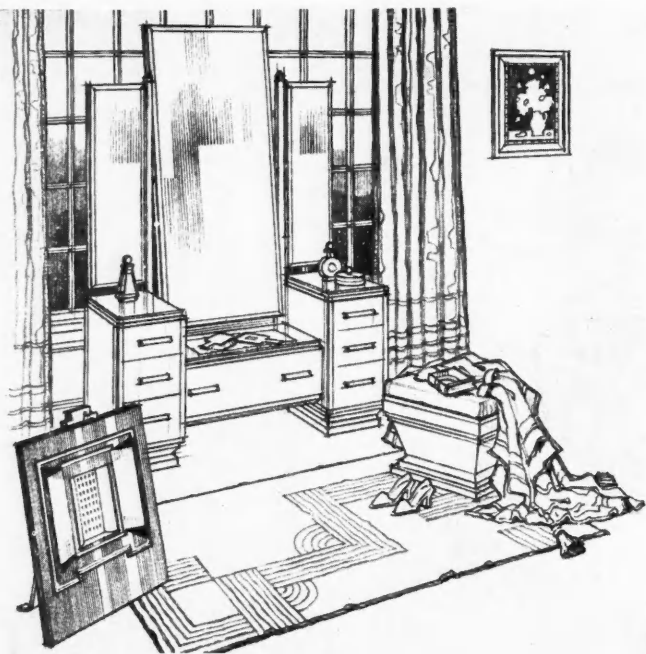
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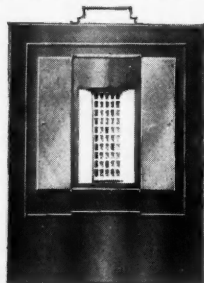
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*R. Clapperton*

VISCOUNT MAITLAND AND LADY SYLVIA MAITLAND AT A RECENT MEET OF THE BUCCLEUCH HUNT AT HENDERSYDE PARK, KELSO

*Selkirk*

Viscount Maitland is the only son of the Earl and Countess of Lauderdale, and Lady Sylvia Maitland their only daughter

# COUNTRY LIFE

THE JOURNAL FOR ALL INTERESTED IN  
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## Whither Architecture?

THERE are many reasons why 1934 may prove to be an important milestone in the development of architecture in this country. We can look back over a year of marked improvement in the building industry; the five-year campaign for slum clearance has been launched on its course, and preparations are now under way for the large-scale plan for dealing with overcrowding to which the Government is committed as the second instalment of its housing policy. This great increase in building activity has come at a time when the new trend which our architecture has gained from the Continent is beginning to make itself decisively felt. Some idea of the direction and momentum of the new impetus can be obtained from the comprehensive survey of modern international architecture which the Royal Institute of British Architects has organised in its new headquarters in Portland Place. This is the best opportunity that we have yet had in England of tapping the architectural barometer and of forming a forecast of the weather ahead.

The first question one asks oneself after viewing the admirably representative collection of photographs in the exhibition is to what extent the exponents of "functionalism" have captured the field? to which the second question succeeds: what chances are there of modern architecture developing into a style? The causes of the *volte-face* we are witnessing are undisputed. There are three main ones: the natural reaction from the orgy of individualism in which architects have indulged for over a century; the economic pressure which dictates, so to speak, a mere subsistence level for so much modern building; and the advent of the new materials, steel, glass, and concrete. Of these three factors, the first is largely a matter of fashion and temperament; but the second and third are inevitable and cannot be disregarded, at any rate, in all those departments of building where money is the first consideration. And

so we find that where buildings of a practical character are concerned—factories, hospitals, bridges, aeroplane hangars, garages, and so forth—the modern technique is already well established, and one cannot deny that the results are often as fine as anything in architecture to-day. But in the next category, where the economic law works at a reduced pressure (in this class may be placed housing blocks, flats and office buildings), there is still a wide difference of treatment. Here, too, however, the "functionalist" is beginning to gain ground, and we may expect to see a great extension of his activities in the planning and designing of the housing schemes of the next five years. In buildings of these two categories, the economic and practical considerations, being paramount, may be held to justify the thesis that purpose should govern design. It is when we turn to churches, public buildings and private houses that the validity of this contention must be called in question.

It is in the house that the issue will be decided, and the battle is, indeed, already being fought with grim determination in living-rooms, up and down staircases, on to flat sun terraces and roof gardens. The form and plan of the modern house, we are told, are the natural outcome of its functions and of the materials used in its construction. But where there is so wide a choice of materials and such an infinite variety of purposes that any one house fulfils, how, one may ask, can the design be left to take care of itself? Those who hold less doctrinaire views are ready to admit that proportion and rhythm must still play their part, but would have us believe that our minds are becoming attuned to forms and relations which in the past were looked upon as crude and without refinement. Thus Mr. Raymond McGrath, whose recent book *Twentieth Century Houses* is reviewed in this issue, draws a parallel with modern music and is disposed to regard this change of outlook as "the sign of a development in our feeling for form"—whereas logically it can only be interpreted as a debasement of our feeling. It so happens that this very point is dealt with in a stimulating essay, which has recently appeared, entitled *Architecture and Music*, by Mr. Alexander Walton. The author's main concern is to work out in detail the analogy between the two arts, which he does in a brilliant historical survey; but at the end he turns his attention to modern architecture and the theory on which it is based. "Modern chords," he points out, "have a structure which would have been considered as absurdly impossible and daring seventy years ago as would that of ferro-concrete. These new materials bring to both arts the temptation to exploit the element of surprise which their use can at present procure. In a very short time this surprise will have worn off."

If modern architecture is to acquire a style worthy to be placed in the succession of the great historical styles, the fundamental qualities of rhythm, proportion and harmony and those delicate *nuances* and refinements which attend them will have first to be reinstated. As Mr. Walton remarks, the modernist creed is entirely negative in character; "its long list of 'Thou shalt nots' is without a single 'Thou shalt' worthy of the name. . . . Until now it has always been very properly considered that materials were made for art, and not art for materials. . . . An infant style sees in materials, not a parent, but a pram." So long as steel and concrete are treated with the veneration due to a creator, it seems highly improbable that we shall have an architecture worthy of the name, and it may be that what Professor Goodhart-Rendel has christened "near-architecture"—the simple and straightforward building to be seen in structures of a utilitarian and industrial character—is the most that we can expect for the next fifty years. This situation might be put in another way. The waistline between mere building and architecture is being drawn higher than it used to be, and it might be added that the functionalist would like to set it in the region of the neck. Yet, we may be quite certain that the fashion will change; architects are too proud of their place as artists to abdicate from that position without a struggle. Modern architecture will acquire a style when the genius of an individual or a group is able to mould the new materials into shapes and forms of beauty that will gain a common sanction.





## COUNTRY NOTES

### LIFE AT SEA

IN a world where life wears normally an unheroic uniform and seems to be held cheap when we read of this sanguinary revolution and that disgusting crime, the tales of rescues at sea in the recent heavy weather have reassured many in their faith in human nature. It is perhaps ironical, at a time when the idea of war is being at least coolly discussed in some quarters, with its vague but gigantic toll of innocent lives, that half a dozen liners at great cost both to their owners and, cumulatively, to their thousands of passengers, should dash out of their courses to the rescue of some hapless mariners. The heroic rescues that the *Jean Jadot* and the great *Europa* had the honour of effecting were threads of the illogical glory, often disguised as common decency or usage, that is woven through the amazing texture of everyday life. The sea preserves a tradition more ancient and nobler than nationhood, by which one imperilled human life tips the scales against all the wealth and business of the world. To some that is its secret lure. The Atlantic storms of Christmas week fell on a ship, among the rest, whose whole adventure is to recapture the old glamour of the sea. Some months ago we alluded to Mr. A. J. Villiers's setting forth from Ipswich in the sailing ship *Joseph Conrad*. Between Madeira and Nassau she ran into tremendous weather and, as Mr. Villiers has said, "did everything except stand on her head." But beyond her jibboom coming adrift, excellent seamanship and capacity among the boys on board brought her through.

### EMPIRE AIR SERVICES

HARD upon the air agreements reached with France and Italy, the Government has put forward a long-term scheme for Empire communications that justifies by its comprehensiveness the delay with which some impatient critics have charged it. True, we must wait for two years before the full programme comes into operation, and even so its realisation depends upon the readiness of the other Governments of the Commonwealth to co-operate. The disaster to the Dutch Douglas liner was due to an act of God, but the tragedy emphasises the value of the British policy of *festina lente*. For most people "no more than 160 miles an hour" is quite fast enough, and when it is achieved with the big comfortable machines to which Imperial Airways have accustomed us, and provides "sleepers" on board and reasonable intervals for leg-stretching, no complaint can possibly be made. To be able to reach India in the time required by rail to take us to many parts of Europe will in itself be sufficiently impressive. At the same time, the Government has shown courage in accepting the principle that, sooner or later, all first-class mails must be carried by air at standard letter rates, and making its plans accordingly. Although this will mean some loss of revenue at first, the great increase in the amount of Empire air mails this Christmas suggests that the lowering of the rate will in fact pay, and before

long the ideal of rapid and frequent Empire communication be realised on a self-supporting basis.

### A RETROSPECT OF SPORT

IN sport the retrospect of the year is rather a cheerful one. To be sure, the cricket season, so far as the Test matches were concerned, was depressing and unpleasant, and the less said about it the better; but there have been exhilarating compensations. Two of our own trophies have come back to us after long sojourns abroad. Cotton's fine victory in the Open Championship at Sandwich much more than made up for the Walker Cup match. Perry and Austin nobly held the Davis Cup, and Perry at Wimbledon and afterwards in America was all-conquering. If he has now shown signs in Australia of being utterly weary and over-played, that does not in the least take away from his achievement; and let us not forget Miss Round at Wimbledon. Then at Henley Leander came back to its old glories and, with a crew half Oxford and half Cambridge, won the Grand in face of a dangerous foreign challenge. The recent football match against Italy produced less pleasing sensations, but at least our men won it, and kept their heads as well, in face of most difficult circumstances. Altogether, our games players and athletes have done uncommonly well against a world in arms that always puts forth its best efforts to beat those who were once their teachers. Without taking these matters too seriously and solemnly, we can give ourselves a Christmas pat on the back.

### NEVER LOOK BACK

Never look back. Our trial is done.  
See where our own good future stands  
In the bright path-way of the sun.

Never look back.

Forget those dark, deserted lands  
Through which our journey was begun.  
Fields have flowed over burning sands.  
Green trees have battled rocks and won.  
So, let us once again clasp hands  
And, where we stumbled, rise and run.

Never look back.

THOMAS BODKIN.

### MARKETING BOARD REVISION

IT is Mr. Elliot's proud boast that the Government's marketing schemes have raised the prices paid to the producer without raising costs to the consumer. At the same time he is showing excellent sense in arranging that the whole of the various marketing schemes shall now be reviewed by an independent *ad hoc* committee. The schemes cannot, naturally, be regarded as entirely without blemish. Points of expediency, of law, of economic reaction, which could not originally be anticipated, are bound to arise from time to time, and, after all, the schemes themselves were somewhat hurriedly concocted. As we noted last week, the Scottish Milk Board has been having quite serious trouble with the East of Scotland farmers as a result of Lord Moncrieff's recent decision in the Court of Sessions. There is also to be considered the question of what kind of scheme shall be adopted to deal with the livestock industry. At the dinner of the Farmers' Club Professor Scott Watson read an extremely illuminating paper on the subject, in the course of which he suggested that livestock products differed completely from staple foods such as bread and potatoes, in that their consumption was much more "elastic." When the price of meat is raised the consumer consumes less meat and more of cheaper foods. The consequence is that any duty or levy which might raise prices to the producer and at the same time restrict supplies might hit not only the consumer but the producer (whose turnover would be smaller) as well. Professor Scott Watson is inclined to suggest that a well regulated series of subsidies applied according to market conditions might be a better and happier plan for dealing with all such commodities.

### LATIN JOKES AT WESTMINSTER

COMPARATIVELY few people can see the Westminster Play, but the day after it is over, when the Epilogue is published in the *Times*, is a pleasant one to a wide circle.



The ideal is first to see the play and then to disentangle in print the component parts of the astonishingly ingenious plays upon words. This year's Epilogue, the work of two very new Old Westminsters, was brilliantly amusing even when judged by the standard of the best of its predecessors. The making of a film of the *Odyssey* gave rise to the happy thought of Circe turning Ulysses's companions into the Three Little Pigs, to be duly pursued by the Big Bad Wolf. From the moment they appeared in Eton jackets with the most engaging and smiling pigs' heads, complete success was assured. There were many and admirable puns, and none gave more pleasure than the "Scripsisti," made to sound as "Cripps's tie," in allusion to a red tie found concealed on one bearing a striking resemblance to the Prime Minister. We may be permitted to rejoice at the graceful allusion in the prologue to Mr. Laurence Tanner's history of the school, illustrated and published by COUNTRY LIFE. "Salve, O venuste liber" is a compliment that all can translate. Nothing was specifically said of "Rustica Vita," but we cannot have everything.

#### RYEDALE

JOINING Pickering and Malton with Easingwold and Thirsk, Ryedale comprises the gentle slopes of the North Yorkshire moors of which the escarpment is so formidable over Cleveland, and into which half a dozen lesser dales thread their ways from the south. Within it lie the superb ruins of Rievaulx and Byland, the baroque splendours of Castle Howard, and such stately mansions as Newburgh Priory, Duncombe Park, and Hovingham. Its broad-streets stone villages are those of Tristram Shandy, whose author brought him to birth within the Dale, and its air is so keen that its comparatively small extent yet seems to the happy dalesman an infinity. It is, indeed, one of those delectable little Edens within our small, close-packed land, that best preserve its subtle but well defined individuality unspoilt, so that the warmest of welcomes may be given to the local branch, seated at Appleton-le-Moors, of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England that has just been formed. Its first act has been to publish a "report" on its area—though that word is too forbidding for the delightful symposium of essays and photographs with which Colonel Duncombe presents us and which Lord Feversham and the Dean of Durham sponsor with their blessing. Dr. Alington sums up the purpose of the organisation and the report in saying that ignorance is the greatest enemy of our country's beauty. In the schools children are being taught now what beauty is, but less what ugliness is, and how it can be kept away. These are the objects, and for the benefit of elders no less than children, that the friends of Ryedale have set out to achieve, a venture in which all will wish them God-speed.

#### THE MUSK RAT

THE campaign of a few years ago against the musk rat does not seem to have been so successful as was at one time thought. The trouble was generally considered to be so obviously due to animals escaped from musquash farms that when the holders of licences to keep musk rats during the year ended April 1st, 1933, were obliged to destroy them by that date it was thought that the plague was as good as over. But a year or two, unfortunately, usually elapses between the escape of musk rats and the establishment of colonies dense enough to attract public attention, and although the Severn is now the only part of the country which is colonised, there is a danger of that river being infested many miles below the place where the present surveillance ends. Mr. Warwick of the Oxford Department of Zoology has just published a brochure under the title of *The Distribution of the Musk Rat in the British Isles*, which goes to show that it has not proved a matter of great difficulty to reduce the density and area of infestation in most parts of the British Isles. Unfortunately, however, there are few places which are not capable of supporting a musk rat population, and it is impossible to prevent them from migrating. If left unmolested these troublesome pests find in our river and canal systems excellent

routes of dispersal from the colonies they have at present established. This means that a constant watch must be kept on the margins of the infested areas and on places from which musk rats are thought to have been cleared. They readily adapt themselves to different conditions, and in Scotland, where there is little slow-flowing water, they have proved themselves capable of colonising fast-flowing trout rivers.

#### A HOPEFUL OUTLOOK IN THE ESTATE MARKET

THE year that is closing must be recognised as a remarkable one so far as the estate market is concerned. Difficult economic conditions everywhere, coupled with the decline in yield on stocks and shares, have intensified the quest for good investments in real property, a form of security that has always combined stability with the prospects of enhanced values and ready marketability. It is these advantages that the present situation has enhanced. As might be expected, the fortunate owners of sound real estate have appreciated the advantages just as much as venturers into the market, with the result that demand has exceeded supply. Prices of most classes of property have risen in proportion to the fall in the rate of yield of other securities. And the purchase price of the index investment—freehold ground rents having no early reversionary element—has therefore risen from a level representing a 5 per cent. return to one of roundly 4 per cent.—that is, from twenty to twenty-five years' purchase. The activity in the building of small houses and flats is evident. Residential properties of all kinds have changed hands readily, and many large country houses have been bought for private occupation. Farms remain cheap except those specially favoured, but they have, on the whole, proved saleable, and it is significant that one of the principal firms of estate agents in East Anglia predicts that those who buy at present prices will have reason to congratulate themselves.

#### I HEAR NO MUSIC

I hear no music now since I grew mad,  
Only the water's pebble-song at night  
In murmured commune with the holy light  
Of dark-incloistered stars. But O the glad  
And tuneful commerce with the day I had  
In an old happy summer! Then Delight  
Made sudden end of all her song and fled  
And winter came and soon the world was dead.

But I can sing: I sing of winter weather,  
Of broken love, and Death who broke a tryst,  
And broken hymns I sing to broken Christ  
At Christmas time when snow is on the heather:  
Or coming, stealthy, home on winter eves  
I sing a love song to the drifted leaves.

THOMAS J. WOOD.

#### IN THE SALE ROOMS

THE year in the antique market has closed with a series of important sales which have shown by the remarkably keen bidding and the high level of prices realised that the welcome improvement of the past twelve months is being well maintained. The outstanding event of last week was Sotheby's sale of the recently discovered letters which Napoleon wrote to Marie-Louise and for which the French Government had to pay £15,000 to secure them for the Bibliothèque Nationale. A number of other relics having associations with Napoleon have recently changed hands. A pair of pearl earrings once worn by the Empress Josephine fetched £1,500 at a sale at Christie's on the same day, while in the previous week several objects presented by Napoleon to his adopted daughter, Stephanie Beauharnais, figured in the sale at Sotheby's of Princess Furstenberg's collection. French competition, which has been especially noticeable in the London salerooms of late, has been responsible for a considerable appreciation in the values realised recently for French furniture. There has been some unevenness in the prices obtained for pictures, but the demand for works by certain minor artists shows no sign of flagging. As much as £1,500 was forthcoming for the charming conversation piece by Arthur Devis of the Lyttelton Family when sold at Sotheby's a fortnight ago

## A SHOOT AT DOWNTON HALL



THE FIRST STAND, IN FRONT OF THE HOUSE

**S**HOOTING in Shropshire, taken as a whole, is of the first class, and the shooting at Downton Hall can hold its own with any in the county. Much scientific planting was done on the estate before the War by Sir William Rouse-Boughton with the object of improving the flight of the pheasants; and his son, Captain Rouse-Boughton, is now deriving the benefit. Sir William, who is over eighty, still takes a great interest in the shoot, though he has made the estate over to his son and lives in a small house near Ludlow.

The day's covert shooting, at which the photographer was present, was down the Drive, where in pre-War days the bag has



SIR WILLIAM ROUSE-BOUGHTON FOLLOWING THE SHOOT IN HIS JINGLE

amounted to over 900 pheasants with six guns. This year the total for the first day was 388. Nowadays, of course, nothing like the same number are reared, although, naturally, the birds fly as well as ever.

A start was made in front of the house, where the guns are placed well away from the covert in an open field, and the birds in every sense "rise to the occasion." After this Pugh's Covert is driven. This covert was planted on a hill, with another covert on a hill opposite, the guns being placed in the low ground between. Here the birds have no option but to fly high and straight. The guns then walk round and the second covert mentioned is taken on, there being a third



HIGH CURLING BIRDS AT THE SEVENTH STAND



AT THE THIRD STAND

THE SIXTH STAND, IN A DEEP HOLLOW  
AMONG TREESCAPTAIN ABEL SMITH AT THE FIFTH STAND  
(FRANCE BANK)

THE LAST STAND AT CORNY BANK



covert beyond again to attract them.

From here we moved into the larger woods which run the entire length of the Drive, which is one and three-quarter miles long. The top portion is brought down, two guns standing in a narrow belt of trees where quick shooting is necessary, the others being placed on each side. This is called the Keepers' Field, and is a good stand.

France Bank is next taken, but here the birds are inclined to beat back. Two guns, however, are sent with the beaters, and stop at the places towards the end of the Drive while the beaters go on. These get some very pretty quick shooting in the covert where small places have been cleared for them.

Luncheon is then taken, and the next stand is near by. Here we have some of the most difficult birds of the day. The Eighteen Acres, a covert which stands many feet above the guns, is brought over. There is also a covert situated on high ground behind the guns who, being placed in a deep hollow among trees, find they have to take their birds directly overhead where they are high and going fast.

After this the bottom part of the Drive is brought up; the guns stand in a narrow neck of the field with high woods in front



PLAN OF "THE DRIVE" DAY AT DOWNTON HALL

Ludlow), so we have seen foxes and pheasants throughout the day, and he hunts his coverts regularly from August onwards. The result, from the shooting point of view, leaves nothing to be desired, and great credit must surely go to the head-keeper, Mr. W. Bailey. He has been on the estate for over twenty years, and has acquired a skill in showing his birds surpassed by none.

and behind. Here the birds are really high, and many with a slight curl. It is one of the prettiest stands imaginable, and many a gun here has wondered just why he was not hitting them. It is no use apologising to the host, as he says he prefers to see empty cartridge bags and high pheasants to a full game cart.

The last stand of the day is Corny Bank. Here the guns are placed well out in the field, and the birds come out of the covert which is situated on a large "mound." There are again high woods behind the guns, so the birds are rising all the time. Some people do not like to see the birds for so long, but they have no option here, and, with all their fellow-guns in sight as well, it is a critical stand. At least two foxes usually leave this covert, coming straight towards the guns, but as there are foxes in most drives we are not surprised. Our host, of course, is M.F.H. (North

## BIRD WATCHING AT A SEWAGE FARM

**S**EWAGE farms do not attract the popular fancy, but they are of great interest to students of bird life: especially to those who, because they live inland, far from the sea coast or muddy estuary, feel that they are unable regularly to observe that large body of birds known as "waders." It was quite by chance, a year or two ago, we discovered that more waders than we were ever likely to see on any estuary visited a near-by sewage farm each spring and autumn. This sewage farm is within a few miles of one of the busiest industrial areas in the north of England, not far from the centre of a great city. We keep a regular watch there now, and many uncommon birds of passage are seen, including that rare visitor the spotted redshank (*Tringa maculata*), which stops in the course of its long flight from the Arctic regions to its winter home in Africa. Another irregular migrant from the far north which has been seen is the Pomatorhine or twist-tailed skua (*Stercorarius pomarinus*).

During March and April, and August, September and October, when the great tides of migration are in full flood, the bird life of the place changes from day to day. During these months we always visit the sewage farm filled with the excitement of anticipation and the eager hope that a rare species may be seen. But whatever else, the merry, ringing cry of the redshank is always heard. Seldom less than a hundred of these birds are seen. They are hated by the gunmen and wildfowlers who come in the evening to shoot wild duck, because their clamour usually signals danger and rouses all the birds in the neighbourhood. Dunlins, too, are very common, and sea-gulls, particularly black-headed and herring gulls, are abundant. The lesser black-backed and common gulls are also frequent visitors. Since the end of July this year alone, over thirty different birds of the mud flats, seashore and salt marshes have been seen at this sewage farm.

Quite apart from the birds, it is an exciting place in itself, and it has a distinctive character which is almost certainly owes to its past associations. Fifty years ago the surrounding flat agricultural country was a deep and lonely moss. Though the farmer has "reclaimed" much of the land, and tilled the rich black earth, the district, even to this day, wears a wild and primitive look. Traces of the coarse, tussocky grass still remain, and there are, too, patches of swampy ground and stretches of bracken. Under a great vault of sky the eye travels to a far horizon, broken only by weather-beaten clumps of ash trees and withered, knotted hawthorn bushes, crouching away from the west wind. Although it is no longer the abode of the red grouse, the marsh harrier and the short-eared owl, some of the waders which knew the swamps and marshes of the moss still return to the sewage farm; and a few birds, such as the corn bunting, unknown in the district years ago, have been attracted and now breed.

The sewage farm, which covers several acres, consists of some fourteen or fifteen shallow sludge tanks, each the size of a small field. The tanks are flooded in rotation and then drained, leaving beds of evil-smelling mud in which the waders find a plentiful supply of food. Apart from a few trees along a cinder track and a ragged hawthorn hedge, there is little cover, and we frequently have to stalk the birds on our hands and knees through the wet grass, the tall coarse comfrey, the bush vetch and bur-marigold plants which colour the turf banks between the tanks. Snipe flush up with a startling cry, and teal and mallard spring away with a whirr of wings from the dense beds of pink knot-weed and the rose bay willow-herb which make even the sewage farm beautiful.

On the last day of July this year about a dozen common sandpipers piped merrily as they flew from tank to tank; a great many redshanks were there, and one ringed plover fed with six dunlins wearing summer plumage. Four days later the numbers of all birds had increased considerably. The tide of autumn migration was flowing freely, and multitudes of birds were pouring in. The first ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) was seen on August 19th, and on the 23rd there were about a hundred dunlins and at least twenty ringed plovers. Two shelducks in eclipse flew over one evening, and more ruffs arrived. Turnstone joined the throng the next day and remained almost a week—an unusual bird to find so far from its beloved pebbly beaches. Ringed plovers continued to increase until there were well over a hundred one day. During the first week in September green sandpipers, wood sandpipers, greenshanks, spotted redshanks, curlew sandpipers, little stints, black terns and black-tailed godwits, as well as multitudes of swallows, house and sand martins, grey, yellow and pied wagtails, were all seen. The autumn migration had reached its height. A swift was seen as late as September 10th, and a month later one grey plover and a flock of golden plovers came down to the farm. By mid-October only green sandpipers, redshanks and common snipe were there—all, oddly enough, in greater numbers than for some time, although the peak of the migration of other birds seemed to have been left behind. One day a solitary grey phalarope was seen. Teal and mallard from near-by meres come to the farm in the evening to feed, and sometimes wild geese come honking up with the winter dusk and alight on the tanks. Wigeon, pochard and shovellers pay regular visits throughout the winter, and moorhens and peewits are always there. One day last winter a hooded crow—a rare visitor to the western counties—was seen.

For the ornithologist there is usually something more to be had from a sewage farm than an unsavoury smell, and the farm we know so well is also a splendid hunting ground for botanists.

JOHN H. LOCKETT.

# TAMING THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT

A SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT IN THE BELGIAN CONGO



CONGO ELEPHANTS BATHING UNDER SUPERVISION, WITH THEIR PERSONAL ATTENDANTS

IT is very largely the wonderful fauna of Africa that have attracted many adventurous spirits into the heart of her bush country, the depths of her jungles, and to the shores of her big rivers. Sportsmen who have taken their lives in their hands, penetrating the fastnesses and seeking out the haunts of African big-game will, however, only agree according to individual experience in such matters as to which animal is most to be feared and respected.

"The Lion is the King of Beasts," someone will say. "Buffalo the most savage and dangerous," replies another, who has had a narrow shave in long grass during an attempt to "bag" a record head out of a herd of a hundred odd. "What animal more formidable than a charging rhino?" say others whose whole *safari* has been caught unawares on the march, and charged, right, left and centre, by a ton and a half of bad temper.

But ask a genuine big-game hunter, or the game rangers whose job it is to protect the native crops, and there is little doubt that it is of elephant you will hear them talk, with the greatest mixture of admiration, fear, respect, excitement and even annoyance. For are not thousands of square miles in Africa to-day given over to the wild as sanctuaries? Yet these great pachyderms, with their marauding instincts, destructive natures, and their love of certain cultivated crops, still continue to ramble far and wide from their reserves, causing havoc and subsequent famine in the native villages they happen to visit at certain seasons of the year. No other animal is capable of leading you such a dance, giving you a greater thrill, and often testing your endurance to the utmost limit when in pursuit with either gun or

camera. The African elephant, so different mentally and in his appearance from the Indian variety, has hitherto been considered untamable — unapproachable. Nevertheless, wild African elephants are now being tamed and trained for agriculture and forestry on special farms for the purpose in the Belgian Congo.

The Belgians are the only colonists to attempt to bring the African elephant into line with his Indian relative. It is a grand enterprise and a huge task, requiring endless patience and considerable courage in dealing with what have always been considered the most dangerous and cunning creatures to be met with in a day's march, particularly if it happens to be in their favourite "thick bush" and the cow elephants are aware of your presence. It is nearly always the ladies who start a packet of trouble.

Although the work has only been begun in very recent years, there is every hope already of the results being permanently successful. The Belgians run the farms in typical elephant country so that the animals feel that they are living in their natural surroundings, and scarcely realise that they are in any way prisoners. The proof of this is that already there have been baby elephants

born on the farm, despite the fact, well known to naturalists and zoologists, that elephants will not breed in captivity. While so much freedom is allowed during the taming of these animals, it is of the utmost importance that no strangers should be introduced or allowed on the farm during the early training, as the presence of strangers and unaccustomed human scent may tend to upset the elephants.

Each elephant has his own personal native boy in attendance. (If



BY THE RIGHT, FORM FOURS!  
African elephants in training in the Belgian Congo



the boy is still new to his charge he rubs himself down with the elephant's droppings in order to accustom the animal to him from the beginning.) But in most ways the animals are allowed to spend the days of their training in their normal elephantine way. Bathing parade is the first incident in the day, when they all troop down to the river for their morning dip. The fact that no boy must leave his elephant seems to worry them not at all, and there must be some amusing sights to be witnessed from the bank if one is fortunate enough to be given the opportunity of watching this fascinating scene.

The natives become veritable circus riders, balancing themselves on any portion of the elephant that may remain out of the water in their efforts to avoid a ducking. An elephant often becomes completely immersed during his ablutions, and the would-be mahout does *not* want to be totally submerged likewise. There is always the habitual fear of crocodiles among natives, which is only natural, as all big African rivers are full of them.

Another clever point in the method of conducting these training farms is that the elephants are practically allowed to feed themselves. Once more accompanied by their own boy, out they saunter into the surrounding bush and proceed to root up, pull down and browse among the trees in a manner dear to the heart of an elephant, who is accustomed to feeding as he goes: breaking down a branch here and there, or stripping bark off the trees, chewing at monkey-rope vines for their juices, and shaking down wild plums, palm nuts, mangoes, etc., according to what fruits can be met with by the way. For fruit he will have, and the wild elephant becomes the marauder at his worst during the mango season. Nor can I altogether blame him, for mangoes are a very different thing when eaten straight from the tree, from the turpentine-flavoured substitute offered by the fruiterer.

When the time comes to put them to the test, two elephants are sent together with their boys to work for a neighbouring farmer, and are then used to pull an eight-furrow plough. Does not this give rise to tremendous possibilities? Considering that the idea was only started in very recent years, the



CONGO ELEPHANT BREAKING DOWN FODDER FOR HIS OWN CONSUMPTION

particularly in remote districts, simply *must* benefit. Head portage is rapidly becoming extinct as a mode of transport and earth roads are still impassable to motor vehicles in certain seasons.

I can scarcely picture myself "up" on an African elephant after having so often stood holding my breath in thick bush and poised on a dry leaf or twig, every moment expecting to hear the unnerving trumpet of one of the herd I knew to be surrounding me—when pandemonium ensues and the entire forest might well be coming down about one's ears as the inevitable stampede follows. Each second the expected charge may happen. But that is another story.

Mr. C. B. Goss, one-time Game Warden of Tanganyika Territory and well known elephant hunter, had permission to enter a Congo farm not long ago. To him the elephant is still the king of beasts, and when one of these lordly monarchs of the jungle knelt down to enable him to bestride its shoulders, just as a camel is trained to do, and then rose to its stately height, he said: "This is the most impressive moment of my life. If anyone had told me five years ago—when, incidentally, I had one of the narrowest escapes in all my career among elephants—that to-day I should be actually carried by one, I could not have believed it. The Belgians have tackled something I never dreamed could be possible, and are making a success of it too. Their courage, perseverance and understanding are something to be wondered at, and, what's more, they will need it in such a venture. Good luck to them!"

PAT TREMLETT.



MR. C. B. GOSS MOUNTED ON AN AFRICAN ELEPHANT AFTER YEARS OF ELEPHANT HUNTING ON FOOT



# STARLINGS IN MYRIADS

By FRANCES PITT



A STRIKING PICTURE OF THE HUGE CLOUDS OF STARLINGS IN FLIGHT OVER THE PEMBROKESHIRE MOOR, NEAR FISHGUARD

A SMALL wood of young larch trees some twelve to fifteen feet in height, with an area of thorn bushes adjoining, and around pasture and arable land, rolling away to purple-grey hills. Out of the sunset-dyed sky hurried a party of starlings, from the east came a few more, then a dozen or so dashed over; but these few could not account for that odour which drifted down the breeze, that stale, unpleasant smell which reminded one of a badly kept fowl-house and that came from the fir trees.

Now came a larger flock, next one of some hundreds, then a mass of birds, all of which met above the wood, swirled in clouds, eddied and turned and became one great company. More and more starlings appeared; they hurried up in their regiments, from north, south, east and west, large flocks and small ones, all being absorbed by the immense course that kept sweeping to and fro above the roosting place, more like smoke driven by the wind than birds

performing acrobatic evolutions. It became difficult to see; it was dusk now, and the crimson glow was fading from the sky, but I discerned the dark mass of birds swoop down towards the trees, when it looked as if the bottom fell out of the cloud and descended upon the wood, at which moment a great roar smote the ear—it was but the sound of thousands of starlings alighting simultaneously!

—to be followed by a low continuous murmur, the contented conversation of that myriad of birds.

From a country starling roost let us jump to a London one—to St. James's Park, as the grey-ness of the winter afternoon begins to take shadowy hint of coming evening, and the gulls and the ducks scramble busily for the last alms of the day.

At first there is no sign of starlings; then a small party, perhaps seven or eight strong, fly by, to be followed in a few moments by a larger contingent. None of these alight, but disappear in the direction of the Horse Guards Parade. However, they are followed in a few moments



STARLINGS ROOSTING IN ST. JAMES'S PARK

by a cloud of birds, coming from the west and seeming to fill the sky. Other flocks coming in from the east meet them, and the combined forces swing around, and come down upon the trees and bushes on the island at the western end of the lake. They twitter in a loud murmur, until all rise, swing overhead, meet more incoming birds, and descend again to festoon trees and bushes with loads of black dots. A great crowd of some thousands of birds has now assembled, though the flock is not so big as that at the roost previously described; yet it is of a size to set one wondering whence come all these birds, and as a roost like this is but one of the many in use in London, the home counties, and up and down the British Isles, what the starling population of Great Britain may total.

Mr. B. J. Marples has recently undertaken an interesting investigation into the starling roosts in Great Britain which were in use during the period October, 1932, to April, 1933, his results being published in the *Journal of Animal Ecology* for November, 1934. He received reports of 285 roosts, 224 of which were in England and some of which had been occupied for many years. They varied from roosts on the cliffs of Orkney to that in Trafalgar Square, and in size from comparatively small ones to those where such great numbers of birds gathered together that computation became exceedingly difficult. So far as London was concerned, he found about twenty roosts "with an estimated total population of 15,000-20,000 birds."

In his report Mr. Marples refers to the damage done "when several hundred thousand starlings roost in a small wood every night for five or six months." Seen by daylight, the effect of the starlings is considerable, trees and bushes being whitened by their droppings. Mr. Marples speaks of the difficulty of shifting a



SETTING A CLOCK GUN IN A FIELD OF YOUNG WHEAT WHERE STARLING DAMAGE IS BECOMING ACUTE

married life, to seek nest-holes and rear lusty families to yet further swell the numerous starling population of our countryside, a population, on the whole, of great benefit, as may be witnessed by anyone who takes the trouble to watch a starling party at work searching the turf for insects, worms and other grubs. But now and again starlings do damage, particularly to young wheat. To scare them away would seem a simple thing to those who have not tried it, but those who have know it is the reverse. The old-fashioned rattle was as effective as any of the devices of bygone days, but now a clockwork gun can be obtained which fires blank cartridges at intervals, the length of the intervals being determined when the clock is set. It would be interesting to try the clock gun where it is desired to shift a starling roost, for there is nothing, as Mr. Marples has said, more difficult to drive off than roosting starlings.

## AT THE THEATRE

### THE BING BOYS AGAIN

MILLIONS must have realised that the War held other things than horror. If there was terror, there was also excitement; if there was maiming, there was also recovery; and before death there had been high and noble resolution. Perhaps the scales were not evenly balanced, and admittedly a pennyworth of ecstasy is a poor set-off against the pound of agony. Most men who have written about the War have stressed something which inevitably lay in its wake—the comradeship that is like no other comradeship. "We band of brothers," said an English warrior-king, and he was a poor soldier who in those four mad years did not find some happiness in that brotherhood, intermittent and ever-changing. A colleague foretold of the revival of "The Bing Boys" that the Alhambra on that first night would be thronged with the ghosts of those who flocked to this piece and this theatre during the War years. Reading this my mind went back to something which Mr. Edmund Blunden wrote a year or two ago about a battalion reunion. Superficially these functions are gay; to those who are not thoughtless they are drenched with melancholy. Mr. Blunden saw that, despite the laughter, there was something about those who laughed which separated them from other men. This was the unspoken recognition that they were survivors from a dead world. Mr. Blunden went on to write:—"They are accustomed to looking into those memories which would not often be welcome talk to their neighbours. They see the works of the Lord, but His wonders in the deep are past; those too they saw. The mystery of that, the misery and the dignity, reside for them in the words 'the battalion.' The future cannot rival that attraction. They, we, are years behind even the present, and minor reservations and limitations of date, place, and contact yield to one strong retrospective migratory devotion."

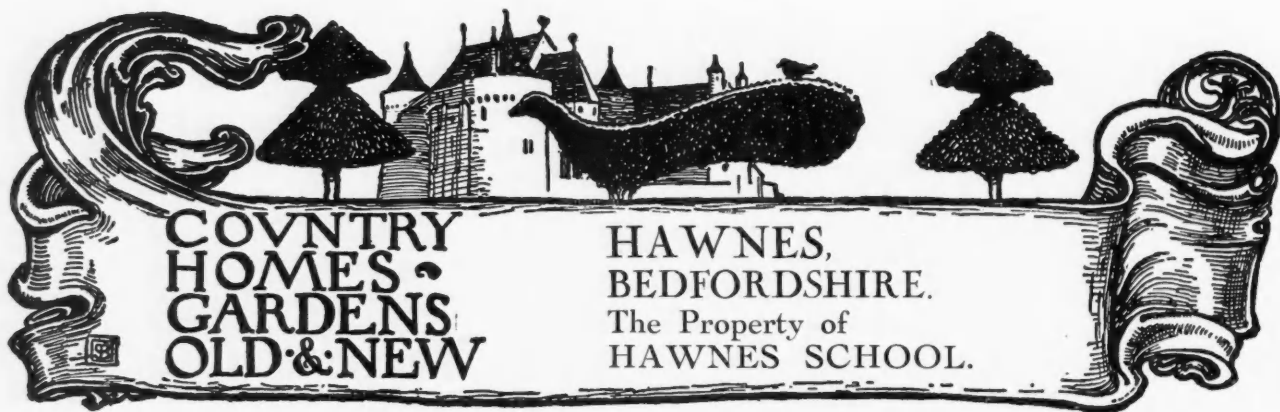
The future cannot rival that attraction. Think of these six words and you realise how pernicious is this exquisite nostalgia. It paralyses. For a young man would be paralysed who, leaving Oxford, should so dream of her spires that he found the rest of the world for ever void of interest. Yet this exquisite-harmful mood, once it has fallen on any, can never be wholly put away. It hung over some of the audience on that second first-night. For I take it that there were more audiences present than one. There were the ghosts; and there were those who had come through the War. There were the non-combatants—the relatives, sweethearts, and friends of the ghosts. There was that section of the playing public which though having known the War is resolutely determined to put

away all thought of it as a thing that is past and done with. There was that half of the new generation of playgoers which realised that the minds of their elders were informed by an experience which it is still hoped will never be theirs. There was that other half which was determined to look upon the piece purely as an old-fashioned entertainment revived and to judge it as they would judge a revival to-day of, say "Florodora." If my reckoning be correct that makes six audiences, some uncritical and some critical. The uncritical will not know whether this show is good or bad. It just is "The Bing Boys," and when Mr. Robey and Miss Loraine come on to sing "If you were the only Girl in the World" they gaze and listen with the eyes and ears of memory. It is too early yet to know which of the War tunes will endure and become one with "Tom Bowling" and "The British Grenadiers." At a guess I should say that "Tipperary" and "Pack up your Troubles," are the only two that are absolutely certain of this kind of immortality. Possible candidates are "The Long, Long Trail," "Keep the Home Fires Burning," "Take me back to dear old Blighty," and "If you were the only Girl." If this last survives, it is because it was the officers' song, just as the ditty about the kit-bag was the men's. "Tipperary" alone is national, and for the whole of our people, in the way that "Rule, Britannia" is the song of all the British.

Mr. Robey got a terrific reception which might have unsettled anyone who had not nerves of steel. A welcome of similar rapture was accorded to Miss Loraine, and how these two managed to get through the evening without any trace of emotional embarrassment was the admiration of everybody. Alfred Lester's part was taken by Mr. Rebla, and it was his fate to have to play a part along lines which to some of us did not at any time seem very humorous. Fortunately Mr. Rebla was allowed to juggle, and he showed that neither of his hands has lost its cunning. There were some agreeable young people in the show which is brilliantly dressed and moves at a tremendous pace from start to finish, though I think it would be better if it were shortened by a quarter of an hour. The great thing about the piece is its tunefulness. The composer when he wrote it showed himself to be one from whom melodies abundantly sprang; he was not one of those who, having thought of a tune, can do nothing else throughout the evening except "plug" it. With our memories and these two great artists, and at this theatre, the revival abundantly succeeds; what it would do under other circumstances we are not called upon to determine.

GEORGE WARRINGTON.





*Bought for his son by Sir George Carteret, Pepys's chief, in 1667, the present building was begun by Earl Granville, circa 1720, probably from designs by Ripley. Additions by James Lewis were made circa 1790 for the Regency Lord Carteret.*

**H**AWNES, where there was a park of 800 acres in 1312, if not before, has long spelt its name thus in contrast to its village of Haynes, some seven miles south of Bedford town, both deriving from the *Hagenes* of Domesday. Until recent years it has continuously been in the possession of distinguished families. Through the Middle Ages it was held of the King in chief by Beauchamps, Mowbrays, and Brays in succession, of whom the latter sold it in Elizabeth's reign to Newdigates. It was they who entertained James I's Queen Anne in 1605 when that monarch was at Houghton Conquest next door. Not long before the Civil Wars it was bought by the Lukes, a strongly Presbyterian family, of whom Sir Samuel Luke has been supposed to be

the original of Butler's *Hudibras*. In 1654 Luke, in whose service the satirist is related to have been, but who only resembled Sir Hudibras in his notable lack of stature, sold Hawnes to Sir Humphrey Winch, with whose sale of the place in 1667 to Sir George Carteret, Pepys's rather difficult superior at the Admiralty, the history of the existing house may be said to begin.

Carteret, a Jerseyman (his father was Helier de Carteret), a veteran Cavalier, and Treasurer to the Navy, bought the place in order to settle it on his son, who married Lady Jemima Montagu, daughter of Admiral the Earl of Sandwich. We hear a great deal about this match from Pepys, since he acted as go-between for Lady Sandwich, who proposed it, and early set himself to discover what fortune the young man was likely to receive. When the matter was first mooted (February 3rd, 1665), Pepys doubted "he hath yet no settled estate in land," though Carteret was notoriously a rich man and in that year, during the Plague, actually pledged £200,000 of his personal credit in order to keep the Navy at sea against the Dutch. It was June 24th, when the Plague was getting virulent, before Pepys ventured to broach the proposal to the dictatorial and "passionate" Carteret "in the best manner I could. He received it with great respect and content and promised that he would do what he possibly could for his son to render him fit for my Lord's daughter." It is clear that all along Lady Sandwich, who was the moving spirit in the matter owing to the Earl's absence with the Fleet, insisted that Carteret should make his settlement in landed property "as soon as may be for fear of death on either side"—a gloomy view, induced, no doubt, by the mounting death-roll of the pestilence. Pepys was equally keen on the match as making interest with the Treasurer for "my lord's" appointment as naval Commander-in-Chief, in succession to the Duke of York who had just resigned. Had he been less successful in this respect both the Earl and the young husband might not have met the terrible deaths so soon to overtake them.

For the present, however, Pepys was delighted, for he soon found himself amatory adviser to the bridegroom-to-be, "he being the most awkerd man I



1.- THE SOUTH FRONT, OF WHITE BRICK AND PORTLAND STONE  
Added circa 1790, from designs by James Lewis





2.—EARL GRANVILLE'S WEST FRONT, ERECTED *CIRCA* 1725 PROBABLY FROM DESIGNS BY RIPLEY



3.—GOOD STRAIGHT-FORWARD GEORGIAN BRICKWORK IN FLARED AND VERMILION BRICKS

ever met with as to that business," instructing him how to take a lady's hand in a carriage on the way to church—but "Mr. Carteret had not the confidence . . . coming or going"—and giving him final counsel and encouragement preparatory to the honeymoon.

It was nearly two years (March, 1667) before Carteret implemented his settlement by buying Hawnes, for which the deed of transfer, signed by the Carterets, the Sandwiches, and their representatives in the transaction, is preserved at Hawnes. It is mentioned by Pepys as "a good house, and near all her friends which is a very good thing." Indeed, the whole reason for selecting Hawnes as the young couple's home was its adjacency to Hinchbrook, and well it was for poor Lady Jemima that it should be so close, for in 1672 she lost both husband and father when the *Royal James* blew up during the Battle of Sole Bay. Of the three little boys thus orphaned the eldest succeeded at the age of fourteen to a peerage that was to have been conferred on his grandfather. Sir George Carteret, however, had died at the age of about eighty, before the warrant had been issued. Lord Carteret of Hawnes, who had been married in infancy by his grandfather, himself died when he was twenty-eight, in 1695, before he could enjoy the fortune that awaited the wife so sagaciously selected for him. Neither Sir George Carteret

nor anybody else, however, could have foreseen that Grace Granville, daughter of the first Earl of Bath, would in 1711 become one of the coheirs to the great West Country estates of the Granvilles by the death of three earls within ten years of one another. Already Baroness Carteret in her deceased husband's right, she was in 1714 created Countess Granville and Viscountess Carteret.

The son of this remarkable lady was Lord Carteret the statesman who, by virtue of being the only member of the Ministry who could speak German, acquired such an intimacy with George I that he was led to organise a party of his own in opposition to Walpole. Brilliant and accomplished—his friend Swift said of him that he carried away from his education "more Greek, Latin, and philosophy than properly became a person of his rank"—his rivalry of Walpole was temporarily sidetracked by his appointment as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in 1724, where he was called upon to deal with the crisis involving "Wood's ha'pence," and the Drapier's Letters which he well knew to be in reality written by his friend the Dean. His able handling of a difficult situation led Swift to publish a *Vindication* of his administration and to confess to Gay that Carteret "had a genteeler manner of binding the chains of the kingdom than most of his predecessors." Carteret, for his part, observed:



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4.—THE MAIN STAIRCASE OF THE 1725 BUILDING

"C.L."



5.—A MASSIVE DOOR



6.—OAK PARQUETRY ON THE STAIRCASE

"When people ask me how I governed Ireland, I say that I pleased Dr. Swift." On his return to Westminster he joined Pulteney in a guerilla warfare against Walpole, and after the "war" election of 1742, when Walpole made his celebrated pun about the ringing of bells and the wringing of hands, Carteret attained his ambition of Secretary of State. During the Dettingen campaign, where he attended the King, he obtained a personal influence over George II analogous to that enjoyed by him with George I, the basis of which was a support of the King's Hanoverian interests as against those of England sponsored by Walpole. This bid for autocratic power founded on Royal support soon failed, and in 1744 Carteret resigned, with his usual good humour. In the same year the death of his mother gave him the title of Earl Granville. In 1746 he was again called upon to form a Government of the "King's friends" against the growing power of Pitt, but failed after forty-eight hours of attempted Cabinet



7.—ONE OF THE WAINSCOTED ROOMS IN EARL GRANVILLE'S BUILDING

making, though he continued in office during subsequent Governments, debonair, brilliant, and slightly tipsy as ever, until his death at Bath in 1763. Swift, Chesterfield, Horace Walpole, and Chatham have alike testified to his genius and to the belief that the true scope for his parts would have been as First Minister to an absolute monarch, like Richelieu or Strafford—a view that suggests that he had inherited the "passionate and overbearing" ability of Pepys's Sir George Carteret combined with the intelligence of the Granvilles.

Hawnes, that he began to re-build, consists to-day of a square quadrangular building of which the east and south fronts belong to a later date; and the west front (Figs. 2 and 3), together with an undistinguished office range forming the north side, represent Earl Granville's *régime*. An old drawing which I cannot trace is said to show the earlier Jacobean building to have consisted of two quadrangles which apparently survived till the building of the later east and south fronts.

The west front is shown by the evidence of recent repairs to have been an adaptation and refacing of an existing building. The inner (east) wall of



8.—ONE OF JAMES LEWIS'S REGENCY CORRIDORS



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9.—THE SOUTH ENTRY "COUNTRY LIFE."  
Transitional in style between "Adam" and "Regency"





Copyright

10.—A GENERAL VIEW FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

"COUNTRY LIFE."

this range is 5ft. 8ins. thick and composed of Tudor brick. The virtue of the front itself is its beautiful brickwork, the groundwork being diapered with dark flared headers in the Flemish bond used so frequently *circa* 1720. The parapet consists entirely of flared bricks, and consequently has a bluish lustre. The order and window dressings, in the former of which the capitals and mouldings are finely rubbed, stand out in contrast a mellow vermillion. The fine quality of the brickwork is seen in a detail of the niches that occur on the north return of the front (Fig. 11). The name of the architect is unknown, but Professor Richardson suggests, from the static character of design, lacking as it does any of the dynamic quality present in all buildings associated, however remotely, with Vanbrugh, and showing little affinity to the Palladianism of Lord Burlington, that it was probably Thomas Ripley. Trained as a carpenter, Ripley married a servant of Sir Robert Walpole and thereby obtained a post on the Board of Works. In 1718 he was appointed Clerk of the Works at the King's Mews, 1721 Chief Carpenter to the Board of Works, and 1724-26 designed the Admiralty building, to the portico of which the proportions of the Hawnes pilasters bear a marked family likeness. This is the probable date of the building here. Carteret's close contact with Whig circles, and with Walpole in particular during George I's reign, substantiate the suggestion that the carpenter-architect was employed here, which is further borne out by the excellence of the internal woodwork. The great staircase (Fig. 4) is a splendidly massive example of carpentry. Constructed throughout of oak, the balusters are fluted Tuscan columns, the newels Corinthian, and the curl of the handrail at the bottom of exceptionally generous circumference. The quarter-landings are parqueted in oak (Fig. 6). The doors throughout the range are of unusual massiveness, fitted, in the case of that to the saloon with magnificent brass locks (Fig. 5). Several of the ground floor rooms are wainscoted with oak or pine (Fig. 7), but are otherwise plain.

The contents of the house, until the sales in 1910 and 1914, must have been exceedingly rich. Horace Walpole paid a visit to Hawnes, which he describes as "a pretty good house with a handsome new front," in 1771 (*Visits to Country Seats*: Walpole Society, Vol. 16): "On the staircase are large pictures of fowl and beasts brought over by him [Lord Granville] from his Swedish Embassy." Of the numerous family pictures he particularises Pope's Lady Worsley; Tom Thynne, who was murdered by Königsmarck ("a good portrait by Riley"); and "Walter Devereux Earl of Essex, father of the famous Earl who was beheaded." He adds that there was a very good library.

The tapestries that now hang in the Jerusalem Chamber at Westminster Abbey, to which they were given by the Rev. Lord John Thynne, originally hung at Hawnes. They include portions of two large panels in a series depicting the Life of Abraham, by Bernard van Orley, made at Brussels 1540-50; and two other panels.

An object of the utmost historic interest that used to be at Hawnes was the celebrated Essex ring related to have been given to her favourite by Queen Elizabeth and sent to her when he was under sentence of death, but never delivered. The ring came to the Carterets by descent from the Earls of Essex and, on the sale of the contents of Hawnes, was bought by the late Lord Michelham, on whose death it was acquired by Mr. Ernest Makower and given to the Abbey. The ring has now been placed on Queen Elizabeth's tomb in the Abbey.

The third Earl Granville, who succeeded his father the statesman in 1744, died childless in 1776, leaving Hawnes to his nephew Henry Thynne, son of the second Viscount Weymouth by Lady Louisa Carteret, his sister. Thynne, who held various places under the Tories, was in 1784 created Baron Carteret of Hawnes. It is he who is responsible for the south front, a dignified elevation of white brick with Portland stone pilasters, the Carteret arms in the parapet, and pronounced bow windows to the flanking wings. Carteret was influenced in the choice of white brick by the prejudice then entertained against red brick on the score of its ugliness in relation to landscape. "Capability" Brown had got Holland to build Claremont for Lord Clive in white brick, and it is evident from the architect's designs, preserved at Hawnes, that it was intended to re-case

the west (Ripley) front in the same material. No design is included among them for the east front, unless one for a stable range was intended to be built on its site. No name is attached to the drawings, but the inference is that they were by James Lewis, who is known to have designed a greenhouse for Lord Carteret in 1782, worked at Longleat (the first Marquess of Bath was Carteret's brother), and elsewhere in Bedfordshire. The assumption is strengthened by the use of the same materials by Lewis for Lavington, Sussex, which he built in 1790. He was a skilful and conscientious classicist who had worked extensively in Ireland in the style of Adam and Wyatt. His best known building is Bethlem Hospital, London. Some of his interiors at Hawnes are admirable specimens of Regency simplicity, recalling the contemporary work of Soane, notably the entry (Fig. 9) and the corridor at the back of the entrance front (Fig. 10).

Lord Carteret, who died in 1826 at the age of ninety, was succeeded in the barony and at Hawnes by his nephew George Thynne, second son of



11.—NICHE AT THE NORTH END OF THE RIPLEY FRONT

the first Marquess of Bath. He had been for a time Comptroller of the Household, and died—also childless—in 1838. His brother and successor, for many years M.P. for Bath, lived until 1849, when, on the failure of the special remainder in the first Baron Carteret's creation to the sons of his brother Lord Bath, the title became extinct. Hawnes, however, went to a nephew, the Rev. Lord John Thynne, Canon and Sub-dean of Westminster, who, on his succession in 1849, removed the remains of the Jacobean house and employed Cubitts to build the undistinguished east front to provide a more convenient entrance.

He was succeeded in 1881 by his eldest son, Mr. F. J. Thynne.

The house and its contents were sold in 1914, when the latter went for very low prices, many finding their way into houses and cottages in the neighbourhood. In 1929 the house was converted into a girls' school, for which its lovely park, spacious rooms, and ample sleeping accommodation admirably suit it. Under the care of Miss Townshend, Hawnes is rapidly making a new name for itself, and great interest is taken by the pupils in the noble mansion with which so many strange and notable characters are associated. CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY.

## YEAR'S END

By BERNARD DARWIN

“THE old year is preparing, like an ancient philosopher, to call his friends around him, and amidst the sound of feasting and revelry to pass gently and calmly away.” I feel at the moment rather like a philosopher, and an ancient one at that, because with the end of the year I may fairly claim to have played golf for fifty years. The actual first stroke has entirely faded from my memory; I may have missed the ball or I may have hit it, but I have always firmly believed myself to have begun the game in 1884, and here is the end of 1934 just upon us. So I think the last day of this year marks for me something accomplished. I hope to be celebrating it in a company of old friends with excellent feasting and such decent revelry as befits our age, close to the links where I played, if not my first shots, at least some of my earliest.

The end of the year is a time of mild philosophising, and it is not unnatural to feel grateful for a game which can be played so long with modest expectations of a little longer still, and to feel sorry for those players of more tempestuous games who have had to give them up. It is also permissible to reflect once more on the really absurd hopefulness of golf. The golfer's brain, if it may so be called, seems to be divided into two partitions. In one partition dwell the most fantastic and nonsensical hopes of improvement to come, due either to a future and unspecified miracle or to some particular discovery just made. In the other is a clear-sighted cynicism which knows perfectly well that these discoveries have been made over and over again, that sooner or later they all prove fallacious, that the notion of improving at this time of day is pathetically ridiculous. And so it is that we can go on hoping even while we laugh at ourselves for doing so—a merciful dispensation of Providence with which no wise man will quarrel.

I have just been re-reading an article on this same subject which I wrote perhaps twenty-five years ago, on the eve of the same journey that I now hope to make again. The last sentence is: “I shall play with some who are quite old and fat, and I can give them strokes—quite a lot of strokes. I must go and pack my clubs—I am sure I shall improve this year, after all.” I dare not calculate what was then the age of those stigmatised as “old and fat.” The result would cast too blinding a light on painful facts; but I consider the general principles laid down in that sentence to be eminently sound. I will not alter a word of it and, what is more, I am almost sure I *shall* be able to give strokes to the man with whom I play on New Year's Day.

So much for egotism pure and simple. There are one or two other golfers, and what about their reflections at this time? As regards those who play their golf in public, it is easy enough to say two very obvious things. The Open Championship was extremely cheering, the Walker Cup match undeniably depressing. On the whole, to my mind at least, cheerfulness predominates. Not only Cotton's great victory at Sandwich, but the play of several others of our professionals, following on the win in the Ryder Cup in 1933, showed beyond doubt that we now have golfers who can hold their own in the best company that can come to us from over the sea. Moreover, despite the débâcle at St. Andrews, there are signs that our amateur golf is a great deal better than it then appeared. Mr. McLean, who played magnificently in that match (a fact that seemed rather to escape notice in the general disaster), has since been doing

great things in Australia, and doing them with a really wonderful consistency. Neither is he our only hope, by any means. I think that anybody who saw the International matches at Porthcawl last summer must have felt cheerful in watching the Scottish side march through in triumph. Mr. Hector Thomson, who afterwards won the Irish Championship, was the outstanding figure; but there were other very good players, and the whole team played with a spirit, an enthusiasm, and a nerve which were most refreshing. There were others from other countries, of course, but it was that Scottish team that made me feel—I hope not with insane hopefulness—that there was a turn of the tide coming.

What is there to say about the game in general? Golfers have had fine, almost too fine weather for their games, so that all clubs, and especially all green committees, have been anxious and worried over the drought. It is symptomatic of what courses have had to endure that the Old Course at St. Andrews has been shut for eight weeks, that it is going to be shut for another period later on, and that certain areas, where the divot marks cluster most thickly, have been returfed. I have no erudition on green-keeping, but, speaking as an ignorant person, I am struck by the way in which courses have, on the whole, stood up to the weather, and am full of admiration for those who have pulled them through. None of us can surely want to putt on better greens than we enjoyed almost everywhere, even in the most difficult times. When we reflect what golf would have been like, after two such summers in the days when there was no water laid on, we may think ourselves pampered creatures and be thankful accordingly.

A good many golfers—I am not one of them myself—have been worried about their handicaps, and, in fact, the handicapping situation has been rather a chaotic one. A very carefully devised system has so far rather confused matters than otherwise, and I personally doubt whether the male golfers of this country will ever take very kindly to elaborate organisation of handicaps such as appears to delight the hearts of the ladies. However, I daresay I am both lazy and wrong, and I have some hope—I cannot say more at the moment—that something may be done this year to clarify the situation.

There is another point on which a good many people would like legislation, and that is the number of clubs that a golfer may carry. At present, needless to say, he can have as many as he pleases, and he—or, rather, his luckless caddie—does often carry a most preposterous number. It has always been one of the pleasant features of golf that it is a free game, that we can try to get the ball into the hole with, roughly speaking, any implement we prefer. Anything to alter that feature would be a pity, but at the same time it may be said that golf suffers in dignity from the ludicrous spectacle of some modern golfer's bags. To watch a man going out with a vast and clanging armoury of clubs, many of which he can hardly hope to find occasion for using, would make us laugh if it did not also make us feel rather angry on the game's behalf. There is also the argument, purely æsthetic but not necessarily despised on that account, that the beauty and variety of the game are impaired by the multiplicity of clubs, but that is too big a subject at this moment. The time has come to tee up our ball for the New Year and to wish a happy one to ourselves and all good golfers.



## RHODODENDRONS AT THE HIRSEL

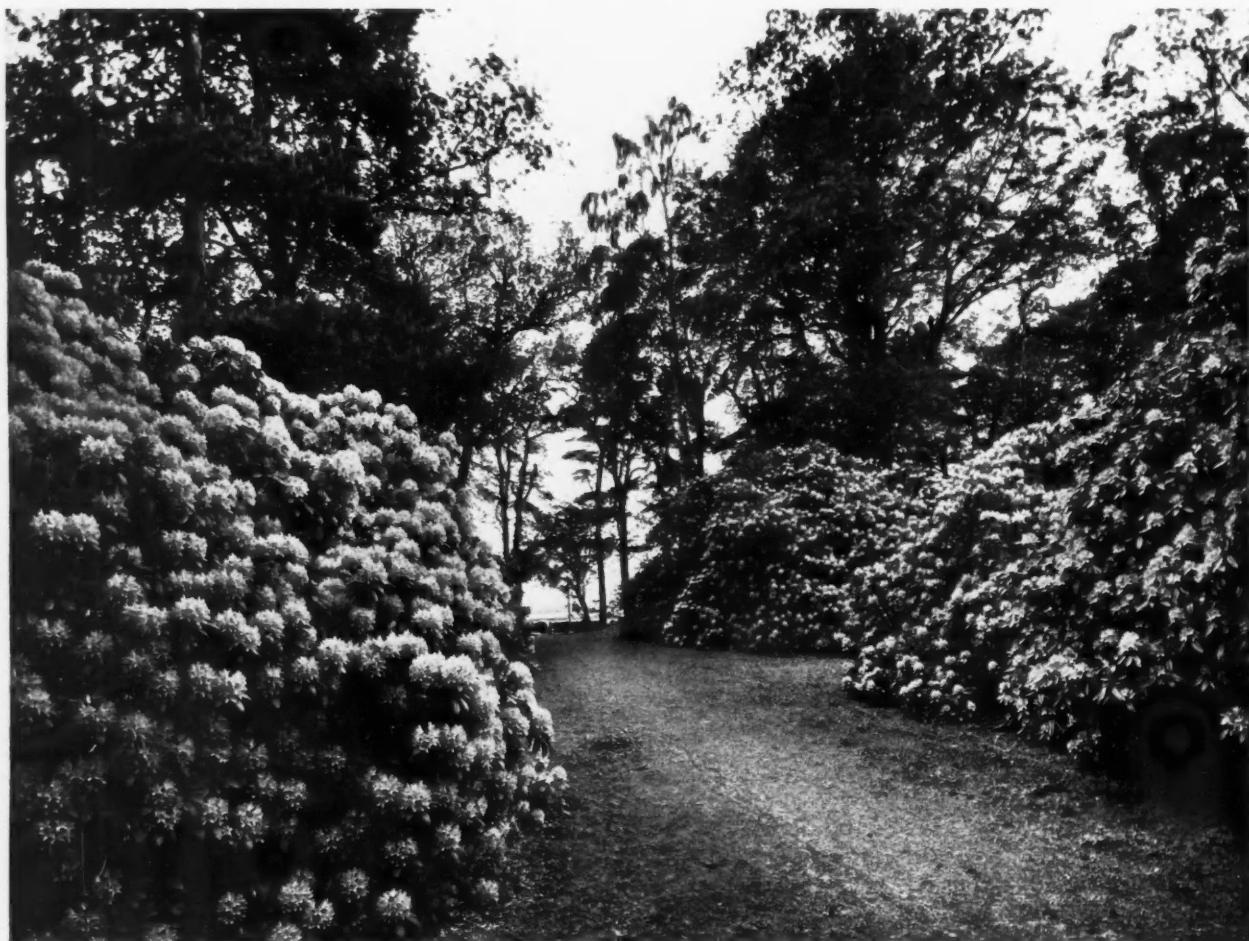


THE HIRSEL FROM ACROSS THE LAKE

IN the wide and green pastured vale between Birgham and Coldstream, through which the broad silvery stream of the Tweed threads its way from Kelso to the sea, gathering in volume and in majesty as it goes, stand the house and grounds of The Hirsell, one of the Scottish residences of the Earl of Home. Once the scene of bitter feud and constant battle, this delightful stretch of Border countryside is now the home of many charming houses and gardens, none of which, perhaps, better reflects the pastoral atmosphere and the changes from strife to the quiet pursuits of gardening and farming than The Hirsell, whose very name, as Sir Herbert Maxwell has reminded us in his book on *Scottish Gardens*, signifies a sheep fold. Occupying a broad grassy plateau which slopes gently down on one side to the River Leet, which is ultimately gathered up by the Tweed

near Coldstream, and on the other to a wide lake, the house is picturesquely set, framed by enclosing groups of trees and banks of rhododendrons and other ornamental shrubs and flowering trees massed in irregularly shaped beds on the expanse of lawn, and comfortably screened from afar by ample woods. Across the lake from the house rises a glade of tall and noble beeches, the remnants, most probably, of a former avenue to the house, and beyond these the encompassing woodland of oak, birch and pine.

The soil and the situation being ideal, the opportunity was taken some seventy-five years ago to develop this piece of woodland, known as Dundalk, and plant it with an undergrowth of the wild *Rhododendron ponticum*, which was much in vogue as an evergreen in the early years of the nineteenth century. The experiment was fully justified. The lavender and purplish







THE EARLY SUMMER PAGEANT OF COLOUR AND BLOSSOM





PINES AND RHODODENDRONS



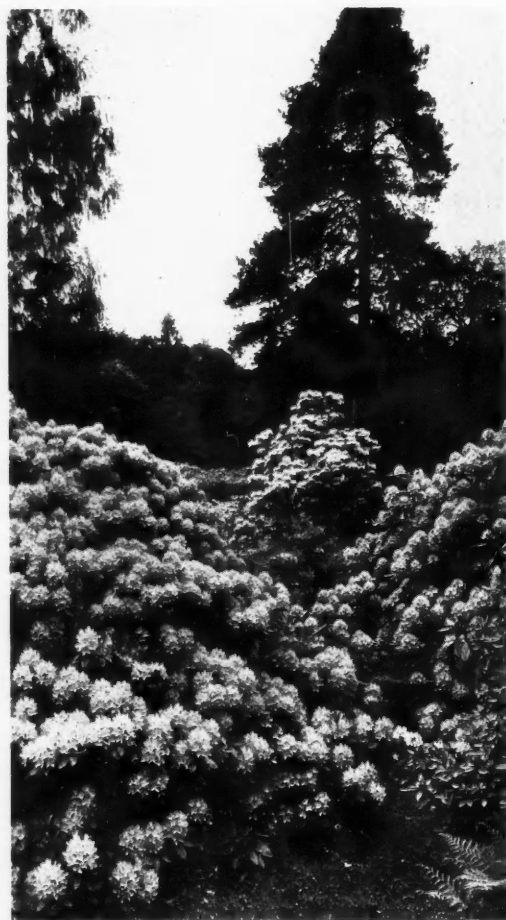
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A WOODLAND GLADE

"C.L."

blossomed pontic rhododendrons flourished, and were supplemented from time to time by many of the finer hybrid varieties as they made their appearance, until now, when the whole floor of the woodland is a veritable riot of colour and bloom in the early days of June. The original planters can hardly have visualised the effects of their work. Though the plantings consist for the most part of the common ponticum, whose rampant growth has rightly been curbed to prevent monotony of effect, and many of the older hybrids that have long been superseded by newer kinds that have been pouring out from nurseries and private gardens with the extensive development and improvement of this enormous race in recent years, they at least provide an excellent object lesson in the woodland planting of rhododendrons, and show what fine effects can be achieved by the bold and generous grouping of the members of this valuable shrub family and their skilful arrangement.

The accompanying illustrations of the woodland, taken this year when spring was melting into summer, speak for themselves. Though they cannot, alas! be reproduced in colour, they convey even in black and



WILD PONTICUM RHODODENDRONS

white and better than words can express something of the magnificence of the pageant when the rhododendrons are in their full splendour, filling the clearings between the trees and lining the margins of the grassy woodland walks and moss-carpeted paths. No words can fully describe the brilliance lighting up every bush, and the enchanting beauty of the long vistas framed by the slender, graceful stems of the birches, the noble oaks, and the tall and glowing red columns of the Scots pines and streaked with the shafts of bright sunshine that strike through the light overhead greenery. Such a perfect setting is given to few, and the most has been made of it. The type of gardening is just right for the place, not asserting itself over much or being out of keeping, but appearing as if developed by Nature and playing its part with a quiet and restful charm that has the right relation to such surroundings. Any mistaken choice, or the introduction of unsuitable plants, would strike a jarring note of incongruity, and the rhododendrons—not crowded together in clumps, but set with a generous hand in large and sweeping drifts—have rightly been left to take full charge and to increase in beauty and grandeur with the passing of the summers.

G. C. TAYLOR.



## STRANGE HOUSES

**Twentieth Century Houses**, by Raymond McGrath. (Faber, 21s.)  
**Architecture Here and Now**, by Clough Williams-Ellis and John Summerson. (Nelson, 7s. 6d.)

IN his important book Mr. McGrath, perhaps the most essentially an artist of the "ultra-modern" architects practising in England to-day, surveys what progress has been made "towards an architecture" since le Corbusier initiated the search ten years ago. He confines himself to more or less country houses costing £1,000-£3,000, i.e., those in which æsthetic and other ideals have had most chance of expression, and gives 124 specimens. He also provides short critical biographies of about 100 architects working in the modern manner in various countries. Most of his specimen houses will be new to English readers, and he gives plans in each case. But here his publishers have somewhat failed him, for the reproductions are so small and indistinct as to deprive them of much of their potential value. It must also be said that, in elucidating the aims and values of modernist theory, Mr. McGrath has set himself under something of a disadvantage by adopting the colourless and mechanical vocabulary known as "basic English" which, though clear, is as repellant to the ear as most of his examples are to the eye of the traditionalist—involving such phrases as "consciously purposed" and "conditioned"—the latter word signifying the application of any process to any subject, from designing to air. It will thus be seen that the book is not sensuously attractive to read. Nor, for those who regard the *status quo* as desirable, or possible, of amelioration, does it give much help, since, getting down to brass tacks, Mr. McGrath has no use for towns, houses, or countryside in their present form, or for the traditions attaching to them so far as those traditions affect the design of building. "The conditions of society are such," he considers, "that the only present hope is in hard reasoning backed by the authority and knowledge of the man of science if there is to be any organisation in the truest sense of the word in our towns and town developments. Art will have to become as certain and as measured as science." As to the æsthetic implications of this view, "architects are now coming to see that the roots of all physical form are in simple geometry," in contrast to the "putting of ourselves into the form of things" which has been the basis of humanist design, or, what he does not mention, a sense of the unity of buildings through their shape and materials with their setting, which may be said to be the romantic approach to building.

It will be seen that Mr. McGrath's faith in scientific planning and design is uncompromising to the extent of fanaticism. When, however, he quits generalities and turns to specific problems and examples he is on surer ground. The new type of house is still in the experimental stage, and his collection of photographs is useful in suggesting the tendencies at work. A serious criticism of his, and his fellows', view of architecture, however, is their apparently complete inability to visualise it in relation to English scenery, or its destructive effect on that scenery. So long as a design is logically, geometrically, and physically complete in itself they are satisfied. But if many such houses were erected, indeed a hundred new cities connected by roads 360ft. wide as envisaged by the author, where would beauty hide herself? It is this exclusively mechanical and urban view of the subject that is its own weakness and that of Mr. McGrath's able study of it.

The "middle way" between extreme theory and traditionism is amusingly and sensibly indicated in Mr. Williams-Ellis's and Mr. Summerson's *Architecture Here and Now*—an introduction to the architecture of to-day for everyday people. On this very point—modern country houses—they give sane counsel, typical of the book as a whole:

Let us firmly contradict the idea that Country Architecture is, or should be, "picturesque" or vague, or woolly architecture. . . . The architect who builds in the country must not be sentimental. But he must understand landscape and the character of the older architecture in the district where he builds. Above all he must know how to make his buildings lie comfortably on the ground, as comfortably as those wonderful groups of farm buildings which embrace the contours of the country so surely. C. H.

### A SELECTION FOR THE LIBRARY LIST

THE DIARY OF THE VISITS OF JOHN YEOMAN TO LONDON IN THE YEARS 1774 AND 1777 (Watts, 5s.); BIRDS IN BRITAIN TO-DAY, by G. C. S. Ingram and H. Morrey Salmon (Ivor Nicholson and Watson, 12s. 6d.); THE NEW AMERICA, by Sir Arthur Steel-Maitland (Macmillan, 10s. 6d.); FICTION.—THE BANQUET, by R. H. Mottram (Chatto and Windus, 7s. 6d.); CARRY ME HOME, by Peter Traill (Grayson, 7s. 6d.). VERSE.—THE OXFORD BOOK OF XVII CENTURY VERSE (Oxford University Press, 8s. 6d.).

**The Diaries of Dummer.** Edited by A. M. W. Stirling. (Unicorn Press, 8s. 6d.)

SMALL beer, in old diaries, is the thing: and here is one that supplies it. We can get plenty of records of the Crimean War or the Great Exhibition of 1851; but who except a diarist would preserve for us the fact that, in 1846, a penny was a suitable tip for a porter, or that a gentleman's dinner ("myself, servant and horse") cost 4s.? Stephen Terry, Squire of Dummer in the county of Hampshire, gentleman and sportsman, lived through the last quarter of the eighteenth century and through almost three-quarters of the nineteenth century, and left behind him twenty-five discursive notebooks containing "unpretentious recollections." His character was sterling, his habits were healthily spartan. At the age of seventy-seven he took daily walks of from seven to twelve miles; at eighty-one he records casually: "I was stirring as usual at four." His interests centred chiefly on sports, and his diaries

dwell largely on "the merits of dogs and men, of crops and stock, of the traits and deeds of the sportsmen of his day." But he also took a sufficiently intelligent and shrewd interest in public events and characters, and he had an odd little by-path of curiosity about the occult, relating (though mostly without comment) any instance of the mysterious or supernatural that came his way. The writing is forthright and vigorous, even into extreme old age, and the writer's personality emerges likeably from the bluff sentences in its courage, modesty, uprightness, common sense and humanity. Plenty of good jokes and good stories are scattered about the diaries, and there is a thrill in learning that Dummer is only three miles from Steventon, so that the Austens were one of the local families of importance, and "more than once Stephen Terry mentions his lively but unassuming neighbour, Jane Austen, of the winning smile and ready wit," at a time when Jane seemed only a girl like other girls. The diaries have been edited ably by Mr. A. M. W. Stirling, and form a record, in a world grown so unrecognisably different in about sixty years, of "a country squire of the olden time; of a good Churchman; an exemplary husband; a model landlord; a hospitable host." V. H. F.

**Essays of the Year**, compiled by F. J. Harvey Darton. (Argonaut Press, 5s.)

THE essay proper, no matter what its subject, is a projection of personality, and as such not amenable to definition. But there is endless diversion in trying to define it, and in this fourth annual volume of *Essays of the Year* Mr. Ivor Brown diverts himself and us with an introductory essay of his own. Much sound sense, born of experience is in it. He empties a bucket of cold water, for instance, on the heads of charlatans fussing over the conditions of their labour. "It is probable that a man will write his best when he is extremely tired, not a little out of sorts, and most unwilling to begin." And again: "Such is the professional guile and craft of this artificer of essays, that you, the reader, will never have the slightest idea of the agony that has been undergone." All essayists will bless Mr. Ivor Brown for such sympathetic comprehension of his fellows. There is a choice among forty-four essayists in the volume, and a wide range of subjects: literature, laughter, nature, human nature, sport, life and the essay at large. Miss Rose Macaulay is so witty that it is better not to read her (as I did) in a railway carriage if you value your British woodenness of composure; and Mr. Bernard Darwin is as enchanting over his golf ties ("neckwear," not matches) as over any of those golfing essays of his that even the non-golfer, helpless beneath the wand of his pen, finds himself reading to the last word. "Everyone for what he likes," in so catholic a volume; my personal preference, in addition to these two, is for Mr. Montgomery Belgion's "Men Like Ants" and Mr. Llewellyn Powys's penetrating and moving "Book of Common Prayer." V. H. F.

**Beside a Norman Tower**, by Mazo de la Roche. (Macmillan, 7s. 6d.)

THIS is not everybody's book, and some of the author's admiring readers may be definitely disappointed to find her concerning herself for more than two hundred pages solely with the affairs of two tiny children. But for the person who happens to love very small persons and understand them it is a book in a thousand. It is so delicate, so tender, so true to life, so vivid in its perceptions of what small Gillian and smaller Diggory saw, felt, smelt, ate, what moved them to laughter, tears or temper, how they smacked each other, fought and embraced, sometimes passing, as cats do, from a caress to an attack. Those early months of their lives, spent apparently in Dorset in an old house and garden under the shadow of the Norman church tower, are most beautifully set down here with only word that gives away the author's nationality and suggests that when the children sailed away in a liner at the end of the story they were being taken home to America. The book is full of lovely things and funny things—in fact it is a gem, and of its kind a perfect one. BRENDA E. SPENDER.

**Creation's Cry**, by Humfrey Jordan. (Hodder and Stoughton, 7s. 6d.)

MR. JORDAN succeeds, by his vivid power of description, in capturing our interest from the moment that he introduces us to the attractive couple who are his chief characters, only a few hours before they sail for England to fulfil their ambition of settling there. To Gillian Cote this return means everything to which she has looked forward during years of exile; but Tony, an idealist to whose knowledge of land the thriving community of Tha-Chaung is mainly due, is unable to face it in the light of retirement. Scarcely has he set foot on English soil before his old activity asserts itself, and he is soon projecting immense plans for land development in the West of England. Getting together a small band of friends, he infuses them with some of his own enthusiasm for carrying on agriculture on a co-operative basis, only to find after months of work that English land is too minutely divided into small estates, too closely guarded by men suspicious of such a radical upheaval, to respond to his theories. Neither the beauty of the countryside, which is painted for us with great delicacy, nor the charms of Ardles, the Cotes' lovely home, are quite strong enough to compensate for Tony's disappointment, and Gillian, uncomplaining and full of loyalty to her husband, realises that he can never really settle here. Turning their back on the easy, sheltered life that England could give them, and accompanied by their adventurous friends, they set out for Rhodesia, where, when we take leave of them, there seems every possibility of Tony's schemes meeting with the success they deserve. D. N. S.

**A Thing of Naught**, by Hilda Vaughan. (Lovat Dickson, 2s. 6d.)

**Sophy Cassmajor**, by Margery Sharp. (Barker, 6s.)

MISS HILDA VAUGHAN has charmed us before with the extraordinary power and fidelity of her pictures of Welsh country life; this small volume is her work at its best and entirely free from those flaws in proportion which have sometimes marred it. Here is a simple history of a peasant girl who loves, is parted from her lover, marries, and then meets her lover again. The husband's suspicions and their tragic refutation make up a story in which a rarely beautiful nature is held, like a fly in amber, within the limits of a humble and narrow life. A quiet book of real if sober beauty, with decorations by "Lee-Elliott"

which are a little too sophisticated for the story, but impressive in their power of conveying emotion.

The lovely illustrations to *A Thing of Naught* are completely satisfying, and Miss Anna Zinkeisen is to be congratulated on them one and all. Its period—the Regency—makes this story of young Sophy

Cassmajor, travelling out to Coromandel by sailing ship to be married to an elderly suitor, full of opportunities for the artist; but Miss Sharp has failed to give her small sad history quite the gem-like quality its size and setting demand. It has lovely moments and clear-cut characters, but never quite rises to the heights of sheer beauty that it seems to promise.

## "Famous" Hunts and their Countries

### THE CROFT BEAGLES



THE CROFT BEAGLES MOVING OFF FROM A MEET AT NEWBUS GRANGE, NEASHAM, NEAR DARLINGTON

In uniform are W. Mawson, kennel huntsmen (*in front*), and the Master, Mr. C. Fitzherbert

*[The most careful tourist sometimes finds that he has been misdirected. Writers on hunting are no exception, as is shown in the following conversation between the Master of the Croft Beagles and our Hunting Correspondent, which is sufficiently curious to be worth recording verbatim.]*

*[At the kennels of the Croft Beagles.]*

Good morning.

Good morning. What can I do for you?

Well, I must explain. I am a peripatetic journalist—the Hunting Correspondent of COUNTRY LIFE. My great authority on beagles (Pufflington, by name) told me in London the other day that while I was in the North I ought to see a famous pack called the Croft Beagles and learn all about beagling. You are the Master?

I am; and you have certainly come to the right place to learn all about beagling. There is no aspect of it which we have not studied here.

Tell me the history of the pack.

It has none—that is to say, none that would appear credible in print. Actually the pack has been in existence for about three seasons, but the hounds are so good that really the personnel does not matter—you need not worry about the personnel.

Where do you hunt?

Wherever we can. First come, first served, and our neighbours, the Lartington Harriers, the Catterick and the Tees Valley Beagles, surround us rather closely, but we don't poach much—not in that way, anyhow.

Well, how did you form your pack?

I just advertised the fact that if anyone had any beagles which they did not want, they could send them here, and that

hounds were quite as likely to survive for a few weeks here as anywhere else.

But don't you get them of all shapes and sizes?

You have only to look at the pack to see how level they are. It is easy enough if you have plenty of hounds and riddle them fairly often.

Riddle them?

Yes. You observe that the kennel yards here are divided by wire netting.

Oh! Those are the kennels. (*Sotto voce*) I thought they were fowl runs.

You regulate the size of your pack by the size of the mesh between the lodging house and the feeding house. Put the food in the feeding house and keep the doors shut. Then any hounds which cannot get through the netting to the trough are too big. On the other hand, those which can get through to feed and, after feeding, can get back to their beds are too small. So half an hour after feeding you find a good, level pack in the feeding house and all the outsizes in the lodging room. That is my own patent.

I call that very clever.

These are the hounds. Don't you think they look well?

Yes. I like the look of that dark one with the short snout.

Oh! Well, as a matter of fact that is a fox terrier. He came with a draft and we didn't notice for some time that he wasn't altogether a beagle. Now he is so useful that we keep him on.

I suppose that he will bolt any rabbit that you may happen to mark to ground?

He may bite you if you are rude. He is a little touchy about his status. As a



Northern Echo

MR. C. FITZHERBERT WITH THE CROFT BEAGLES AFTER MEETING AT MORDEN

Copyright





THE DOG HOUNDS IN KENNEL AT SAINFORD, COUNTY DURHAM

matter of fact we do hunt hares. But you had better come out this afternoon and see for yourself.

This afternoon?

Yes. Our hounds are so fast that no human being can keep in touch with them for a full day. So we meet at two o'clock. You will have done quite enough by tea-time.

Is the meet far off?

About twelve miles. The hounds go on by van—that is if someone has remembered to lock the door at the back of it. Otherwise the door is rather apt to fly open and we distribute hounds as we go to the meet and collect them on the way home—the converse of a trencher-fed pack.

That can't be very good for the beagles.

No, it is better if they go in the van. But they will be all right this afternoon.

Well, I am looking forward to seeing them or, at any rate, hearing them. I am afraid that I do not share my friend Puffington's view that one cannot attain bliss without having one's breath taken away, temporarily or permanently.

[Scene changes to the Master's house.]

I hope you enjoyed that.

Your hounds certainly run extraordinarily fast. From a humane point of view I am sure that I felt much nearer death than the hare ever was. Where are your trophies of the Chase?

This is one.

That cup? Can your hounds be relied upon to chase sheep only in a direction indicated by you?

No. As a matter of fact, although the inscription on the cup says "Rydal Sheep Dog Trials," we actually won it at a beagle show held at the same meeting.

Can it in fact be proved that there is no alien blood in your pack?

There is virtually none. One or two hounds are described in this kennel book as "pedigree unknown," but that really means nothing. After all the remark applies to a number of good steeplechase horses—indeed to several peers of the realm if one was being really critical.

These are curious entries "died fighting"—rather reminiscent of the Great War, aren't they?

Well, there has really been no Great War, but a sort of guerilla warfare is carried

on in the kennels between drafts from different public schools and from the University—a regrettable form of snobbery which sometimes has fatal results. I started with a draft from the New College and Magdalen and we have had several lots from Ampleforth and one or two hounds from Eton. So the cult of the old school tie features rather large in kennel society.

How many hares have you caught this season?

An average number. That, as you doubtless know, is the official answer for any pack which does not catch many. But, at any rate, we have not caught much else besides hares this season and that in itself is no mean feat. Actually a couple of years ago we killed three hares and a horse in one day.

I call that combining business with pleasure, provided that the horse went into your boiler in due course. Did he die of exhaustion or horror?

As a matter of fact he was an old horse and he died of excitement, or it might have been of amazement on over-hearing that we had already killed three hares. But if there were not so many hares in our country we should kill quite a lot. Didn't you think the hounds ran well to-day?

They certainly did as far as I could see, though I only ran in fits and starts—more fits than starts. They seemed to

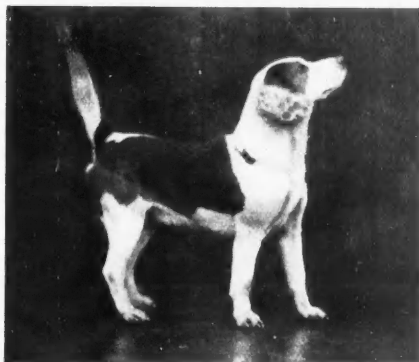
go well together when hunting, but at the meet and on the road I thought the pack showed rather a tendency to disperse—a gaseous rather than a liquid characteristic.

I put that down to the public school element again. The Ampleforthians and the Etonians don't walk together very well. But that will be all right once we have all hounds of our own breeding. After that they can only brag of where their parents were educated

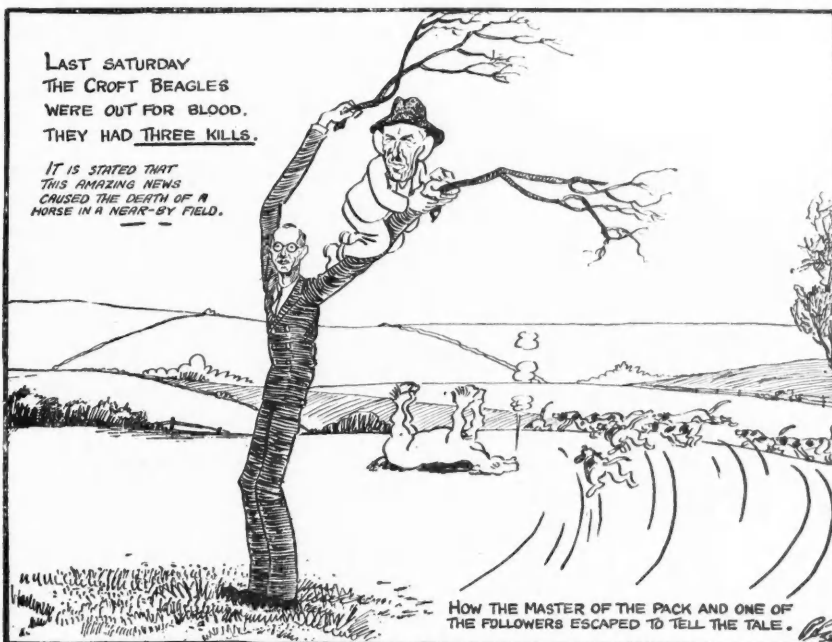
and I think they will all be proud of being Old Croftonians together.

They well may be. I am bound to say that Puffington was misleading when he described the establishment to me in London. I had expected that a famous pack of beagles might be compared to those famous packs of foxhounds whose names have for centuries been household words in England. It is possible that when he said famous he meant notorious. But I have enjoyed being misled. Good-bye and thank you for showing me the hounds.

Good-bye. Come again when you have recovered from the effects of to-day.



PILGRIM



THE DEATH-DEALING CROFT BEAGLES

A caricature published in the "Darlington Echo" and reproduced by permission

## CORRESPONDENCE

### THE OLDEST INHABITED PARSONAGE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Which is the oldest inhabited parsonage in this country?

The main structure of the Old Vicarage, Farnham, Surrey, dates from the thirteenth century. In those days it was a barnlike structure with a priest's chamber (still in original condition) looking towards the church. This is unusual, for the priest's chamber usually faced south. Traditionally, in Chaucer's time the vicar of Farnham had an annual allowance of £10 to supply the pilgrims on their way to Canterbury with food and lodging. The pilgrims slept on the floor, and he had his priest's chamber, to which he probably ascended by a ladder.

The upper floor is believed to have been put in early in the sixteenth century.

The brickwork at the west end is pre-Reformation, the bricks being "stretchers and headers."—ELFANOUR SINCLAIR ROHDE.

### ICE SCULPTURE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I send you a photograph of mine from Davos which you may care to publish. It shows an elephant carved out of ice, rather a pleasant piece of ice sculpture as I venture to think.—E. MEERKÄMPER.

### "WHICH WAS THERE FIRST?"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

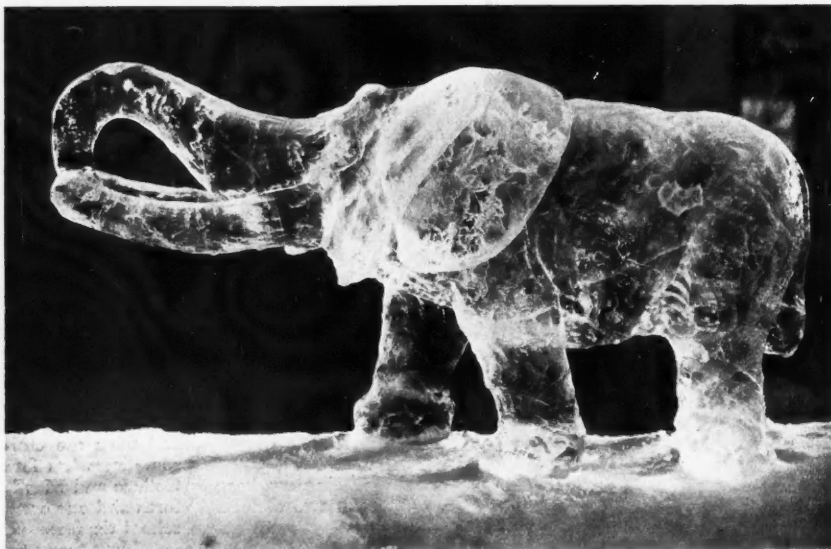
SIR,—There is yet another parallel to your correspondent's problem picture "Which Was There First?" in which large trees are shown growing through the roof of a Kentish barn. It is in the neighbouring county of Surrey, some 600ft. up on top of the North Downs above Shere.

When, some ten years ago, I wished to perch an unobtrusive week-end "house" on this commanding eminence, I could not countenance the destruction of the noble old Scots firs that already dignified the site, wherefore I had the queer cottage shown in the photograph built around them.

The tree trunks actually support the house and, having acted as ladders to the gallery within, and as coat-hanging pillars and so forth, emerge into the open again through the thatch and spread their still growing branches to the sun.—CLOUGH WILLIAMS-ELLIS.



THE HOUSE BUILT ROUND THE TREES—



NOT FROM THE ICE AGE

### WHERE OUR WINTER ROOKS COME FROM

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—It is generally known that our rook population is greatly augmented in winter by hordes of foreign rooks from the Continent, but few people know or realise from what countries they come. Thanks to ringing on a large scale on the Continent, we now know the answer to this question. Directly the weather becomes too cold for them to obtain food there, they stream over to our country in great numbers, and, naturally enough, most of the returns of such marked birds come from our eastern coastal counties.

The first of these invaders arrived in the Scotch county of Banff late in September, having been hatched in Latvia fifteen months before. The next was a Dutch-bred bird, recovered in Cornwall on October 19th, followed on the 26th by a Danish bird in Suffolk; on the 29th, a bird from Lithuania, in Norfolk; and on the 31st, another Dutch bird, in Gloucestershire. Three were young birds of the year, and the fourth in its second year. November 2nd saw a German bird from Westphalia, in Devon, and a day or two later another German bird of Brandenburg, in Essex. The rook taken in Sussex on November 5th was caught and marked while on migration to the island of Heligoland. On November 8th and 9th, a Danish and a German bird from Hamburg

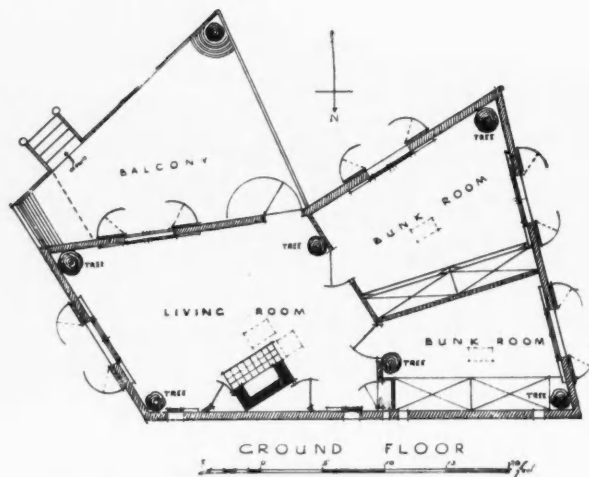
were taken in Warwickshire and Merionethshire respectively, the first a bird in its third year, and the second in its second year, the first two November birds being young ones. On the 16th, a youngster marked on the island of Mellum in the North Sea was recovered in Cornwall; and another young bird, recovered in the same county on the 22nd, also a bird of the year, had its origin in Lithuania.

On the last day of the month, yet another youngster, from Hanover, reached Suffolk.

Some of the December records show birds coming from still far more distant countries, for on the 5th and 22nd two young rooks bred in Finland were got in Berkshire and Norfolk; and on the 15th a second year bird from Sweden, in Glamorgan, where a Hanover bird of the year occurred about the same date. On the 23rd, a young bird was got in Yorkshire which was hatched on one of the West Frisian Islands, and in the same county a young Danish bird on the same date.

During December, rooks marked on migration on Heligoland and in Pomerania and Holland were found in Norfolk, Devon, and the Isle of Wight. We might almost presume that most of the migrants had now arrived, but January shows arrivals from all the countries already mentioned, and also February, with more birds from Finland and one from North Russia. Two of these winter birds, captured and ringed in Oxfordshire, were recovered in their breeding places in East Prussia and Pomerania in May and July, and one trapped in Cheshire, in Mecklenburg, Germany, in June.

Only three were recovered in Ireland—in Limerick, Cork, and Kilkenny, two Danish birds and a Heligoland migrant.—H. W. ROBINSON.



—AND ITS PLAN SHEWING THE TREES.



### A THIRTEENTH CENTURY SURVIVAL

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I was looking the other day at the Crusader's helmet hanging above the tomb of its wearer in the little old Norman church. Here it had hung for some six or seven hundred years, surmounted by the crest of a goat's head with curiously twisted horns, to me as mythical a looking animal as a unicorn. But my host, descended in direct line from the Crusader, still bearing the same name and having the same crest, assured me that not four miles away, on a portion of his estate, were the descendants of those same wild goats, given to his family by King Edward I. We went to look for them.

It is not very well known that a small portion of Needwood Forest still remains in its original state. Right in the centre of England and within five miles of the hurly-burly of modern main roads with their rush of traffic, here are peace and complete solitude, and as we crept quietly through the bracken we saw a herd of deer silhouetted against the skyline. One second they stood at gaze, then, having got our wind, off they went over the brow of the hill and down a thickly wooded glade.

Ah! Here are the goats! Sheltered behind a tree, we watched them. Snow white shaggy coats, jet black heads and necks, the nannies with graceful, delicate little black backward-sloping horns, the fathers of the herd with magnificent heads. They were not as shy as the deer, but very uneasy at our proximity, and very difficult to get into a good position for a photograph. We had only a very ancient Bull's-eye No. 2 Kodak, and it was necessary to get within a dozen yards, and also, if possible, to get the goats against the skyline, as their horns did not show up with a background of trees and bracken. It took us nearly two hours, crawling and lying patiently waiting.

For a moment a few of them stood within five yards of where I lay, and I snapped them. The next minute they were off to join the rest in a mad scamper down a steep slope, and, jumping a little stream, were soon lost to sight.

There are altogether about ninety of these goats, and they seem to live in two separate herds, though they are not divided in any way; and, the forest being surrounded by a deer fence, they have survived as a distinctive and curious relic of the thirteenth century.—C. G. BEDFORD.

### THE FOUR LITTLE BEARS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Here are two photographs of some Teddy Bears with their playmate, a terrier.

Although only a few months old, they were eager to play with everybody and were gentle and amusing. Each seemed to develop his or her own characteristics. One was a great traveller, always popping up in unexpected places—even popping her head over the office table, to the consternation of an industrious *babu*. Another was a great actor, always wanting to play the buffoon; a third, such a cantankerous fellow that he had to have his meals alone. However, they were all such good entertainers that one wondered whether the Indian *tamasha-callahs* really have to teach them much at all. Curiously enough, they can be bought with a rupee, eighteenpence, in any hill village of the Himalayas.

These little fellows were kept for some months at Dalhousie until their wandering



DESCENDANTS OF THE GOATS GIVEN BY KING EDWARD I

habits—one got into a baby's bed—necessitated their being found a safe home in the Lahore Zoo.—GREEN RANGER.

### AN AFRICAN HOUSE IN HAMPSHIRE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Among your readers there may be some who are interested in the history and development of African residential architecture, of which the house in the accompanying picture seems to be a satisfactory example. However, if any of these readers feel that they can afford neither the time nor the trouble in journeying



FROM AFRICA TO ROMSEY

to Africa to pursue their studies, they need only visit the neighbourhood of Romsey, Hants, to view this specimen.

Passing by recently I stopped to ask permission of the occupant of this little cottage to take its photograph. Imagine my surprise when I found that it had another quite noteworthy interest, namely, that it is connected with Florence Nightingale. It at once occurred to me that my request must have been a common one, and I expressed the hope that the good lady was not frequently pestered with callers such as I. But there was still another surprise awaiting me, for I was told that, during the period of her tenancy of the cottage, the lady could not recall a picture ever being

taken of it, and that period extended over thirty-six years!—E. W. GORDON.

### "TASTING" FRUIT BY ELECTRICITY

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—An "electrical palate" has recently been developed, by which the degree of ripeness of apples, plums and other fruits or vegetables is indicated relatively on a tiny instrument known as the "Electrynx."

Essentially, this instrument (which was originally designed by the Westinghouse Electric Manufacturing Company of America for measuring the minute currents of photo-electric cells) is based on the well known principle of the Voltaic cell, in which two dissimilar metals (the electrodes) are immersed in an acid solution (the electrolyte). When their free ends are joined together metallically a current passes, and this can be measured by means of a suitable electrical mechanism or instrument. Within limits, the current varies with the strength of the acid solution. Now, in the Electrynx the electrodes consist of two dissimilar projecting metal pins, and when these are inserted into the fruit or other substance, the acid juice acts as the electrolyte. A minute current, the strength of which depends on the degree of acidity of the juice, then passes through the instrument and causes a pointer to move over a scale which is arbitrarily divided, and to come to rest at a figure representing a relative degree of acidity. The instrument is so sensitively constructed that it indicates on its dial the action of one-millionth of an ampere—or about one-tenth the "wing-power" of an ordinary house-fly.

The Electrynx is quite a small instrument, shaped like a little alarm clock and no larger than a small apple. Its commercial possibilities can easily be realised. Fruit growers, jam manufacturers, canners and preservers of fruits and vegetables will now be able more readily to maintain a standard of flavour for their raw or finished products, because buyers and tasters will be able to apply a scientific and exact test in the selection of the natural products. Apart from this, the instrument has many other useful possibilities in, for instance, the spheres of commerce, physics, pathology.—V. SINCLAIR.



THREE MONTHS OLD



WITH THEIR FRIEND MR. TERRIER

## THE ESTATE MARKET

### "ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL"

**T**HE fine Tudor and Queen Anne house, Hinwick Hall, exhibits the excellence of the judgment of the old race of owners and architects in the selection of a site. It stands on the western slope of a gentle valley, in an undulating park, near Podington and Irchester, about a quarter of an hour's motor run from Bedford. Meets of the Oakley Hounds ensure good sport. The Hall has been partly re-built and fully modernised, and Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. can quote a very reasonable price for it with 170 acres.

#### £20,000 A YEAR; AND £350,000

A WONDERFUL year is ending in a wonderful style, with a perfect spate of big business. On one afternoon just before Christmas Eve two messages arrived, first of the sale of a freehold ground rent of £20,000 a year, in Berkeley Square; and, hot on its heels, the news of the sale, by the Grosvenor Estate, of 7½ acres of freehold land in Pimlico for £350,000, and the buyers' intention to begin next spring the building on the site of 1,400 flats. Messrs. Osborn and Mercer acted for Mr. French, a famous American provider of flats in the United States, and Mr. Lionel Brown (Messrs. Arber, Rutter, Waghorn and Brown), as usual, had the interests of the Grosvenor Estate in his keeping. With only one working day left, it would be rash to say that that, too, may not bring news of some other great transaction, especially as we happen to know of at least one important contract that is only waiting for the clearing up of legal technicalities.

The freehold ground rent of £20,000 a year secured on premises facing Berkeley Street has been sold. The agents concerned were Messrs. Goddard and Smith, Messrs. Lofts and Warner, and Messrs. George Trollope and Sons.

The executors of Sir Herbert John Ormond have sold, for £2,250, Springfield, Lordship Road, Stoke Newington, through Messrs. Leopold Farmer and Sons.

Mr. A. T. Underwood has sold Southwell, Pound Hill, Worth, 3 acres; Oakmead, Copthorne Common, 3½ acres; and South View, Three Bridges; also building land at The Finches, near Crawley.

#### CAMBRIDGE COLLEGES AS INVESTORS

CAMBRIDGE colleges are making investments in business premises. Messrs. Bidwell and Sons have acquired certain shops in Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, for Clare College; and shops in Seamoore Road, Bournemouth, and High Street, Christchurch, for Peterhouse College. Messrs. Bidwell and Sons, who during the year sold as a whole, on behalf of the Cadogan Trustees, the Culford Hall estate, 10,733 acres, in Suffolk—a transaction carried out jointly with Messrs. Daniel Smith, Oakley and Garrard, H. and R. L. Cobb and Cronk—issue their customary annual review of real estate. It is prepared by Mr. John E. Bidwell (Past President of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution) and his partner, Captain Norman J. Hodgkinson, with the aid of their colleagues, Mr. H. W. Dean (Cambridge), Mr. H. E. Bush (Ely) and Mr. F. G. Norton-Fagge (Ipswich), all of whom speak with authority on landed estates. They have accurately predicted year by year for a long period the course of the estate market, and it is encouraging to find them hopeful about farm values.

Messrs. Geering and Colyer have sold Ashenden estate, Tenterden, 450 acres, with a fine Georgian residence and home farm.

Sales by Messrs. Dreweatt, Watson and Barton include Brightwalton Farm, Newbury, 970 acres; West Stratton Farm, Micheldever, 575 acres, with Messrs. Hewett and Lee; outlying portions of Craven estate, Newbury, 916 acres; Buttermere, 957 acres; and Speen Court, Newbury, with Messrs. Hampton and Sons.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances, the owner of a delightful freehold on the North Cornwall coast, near Wadebridge, wishes to sell it and would take less than half what it cost him four or five years ago. All the documents relative to the house can be seen in Chancery Lane, and all the facts vouched for by Messrs. Weatherall, Green and Smith, at their office, and it is the opportunity of a guaranteed bargain for an immediate buyer.

#### OXSHOTT PLACE SOLD

OXSHOTT PLACE, Oxshott, a modern residence in 10 acres of gardens and natural woodland, has been sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley.

Harpsden Wood House, Henley, has been sold by Messrs. Nicholas and Messrs. Simmons and Sons. It is a replica of a Tudor manor house, with nearly 20 acres, on the Chiltern Hills adjoining Harpsden golf course.

Fairways, a modern house and 2 acres on the old course at Addington; and Thresholds, Tyrells Wood, Leatherhead, have been sold by Messrs. Hampton and Sons, who will, on January 22nd, offer, at St. James's Square, Bracknell Lodge, Froggnal Lane, Hampstead, a beautifully decorated freehold having exquisite panelling and a gymnasium. It is practically on two floors.

Sales by Messrs. Harrods Estate Offices include: Saxon Court, Buxted, 11 acres; Wadstray House, Blackawton, Devon, a stone residence; Manor Farm, Chesham Bois, an old manor house; and Woodriding, Ickenham, 1 acre.

#### CULFORD AND LACKFORD

SALES amounting to £105,567 were effected by Messrs. Fox and Sons at or before their auction at Bury St. Edmunds. There was a crowded attendance on both days. The mansion and park, three farms, and some small lots remain unsold at very low prices. The sale showed an increasing demand for agricultural land. In all about 11,000 acres were sold.

Messrs. Nicholas have sold Farne, just off Nettlebed Common, near Huntercombe golf course.

Mrs. N. C. Tufnell has sold Huntersdale, Virginia Water, a modernised residence with 20 acres, held on a Crown lease; Barton Lodge, Windsor Forest, 20 acres; with Mr. Robert Permain, building land on Windlesham Hall estate; and Lavershot Hall, Windlesham, 8 acres, with Messrs. Chancellors, Nicholson and Bowen, and Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley.

Major-General E. W. Alexander, v.c., lived at Horswell House, near Kingsbridge,

which is to be offered by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley. The residence is an example of the William and Mary style, in 19½ acres. The firm, with Messrs. Fox and Sons, is to sell Bemerside, St. Anthony's Road, Bournemouth, on January 24th, also for executors. The freehold corner residence is two minutes' walk from Meyrick Park and golf links. Lock-eridge House, 12½ acres near Marlborough, is for sale by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. Lavington and Hooper. The Georgian house, 500ft. above sea level, stands in grounds bounded by the Kennet.

Mr. A. E. Matthews has instructed Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. Rennie Taylor and Till, to offer Herbert Hall, Crick-howell, in the Usk Valley. The house, in 2½ acres, dates in part from Tudor times, and it has a fine staircase. The views include the "Sugarloaf" of Abergavenny.

Elmcroft, East Bedford, Middlesex, an old-fashioned house with 4 acres, is for sale by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley.

#### THE BEAUTY OF BERKHAMSTED

THE Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments in Hertfordshire (1910), in the course of a description of the more noteworthy features of Berkhamsted (including a full-page ground plan of the castle) says:

Egerton House on the south side of High Street, and south-east of the Church, is a sixteenth-century building of two storeys with attics, coated externally with rough-cast. The two storeys are divided by a moulded wood string-course, and the roof is tiled. The north front has three gables, with two small gabled dormer windows in the steep-pitched roof between them. Below each gable is a projecting bay, carried from the ground floor to the height of the eaves, with mullioned windows and small gabled roofs. The central bay is square, and contains the entrance doorway, the other bays have splayed sides. The windows of the ground floor have jambs, mullions and transoms of moulded stone. These are of wood in the upper windows, which are glazed with diamond-shaped panes. At each end of the house is a projecting chimney-stack, having square flues set diagonally. The interior of Egerton House has been considerably restored, but it retains some original fireplaces, one of which is surmounted by a carved and panelled overmantel of early seventeenth-century date, some old beams in the ceilings, and one or two oaken doors. The condition of Egerton House is good.

For Newnham College, Cambridge, Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff have let on lease Roseldene, Hindhead, a modern house, 800ft. above sea level, in wooded grounds of 6 acres. The house was built by the late owner, Lady Agatha Russell, for her own occupation, 31 years ago. Messrs. Bridger and Son were associated in the letting.

Thornburgh Hall, Leyburn, and 7 acres, have been sold by Messrs. Ward Price and Co.

In a note on their recent transactions, Messrs. Kinder and Chavasse say that, in addition to being associated in the sale, approximately for £250,000, of twenty blocks of freehold weekly property in South London, occupying a total area of 6 acres, they have carried through the sale of thirty freehold houses at Wealdstone, the latter in conjunction with Messrs. Harries and Jamieson.

Maxstoke Castle is to be let. It was built by William de Clinton in 1346, and is a rectangular structure with a tower at each corner. The gate-house, a very fine building, is reached across the moat that surrounds the Castle.

ARBITER.



HINWICK HALL: GOOD HUNTING



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## CARR'S TABLE WATER BISCUIT

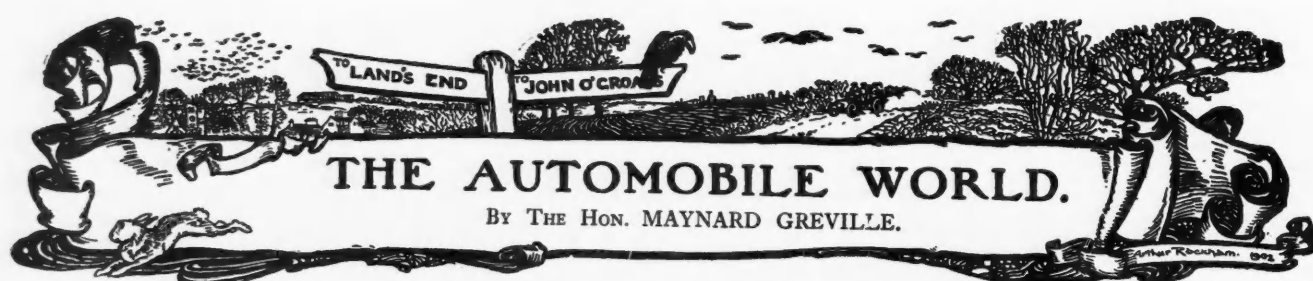


THE  
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TO EAT  
WITH CHEESE



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## NEW CARS TESTED.—CXVI: THE WOLSELEY 14 H.P.

**W**OLSELEY products have an interest all their own. For many years now this firm have been turning out cars which have always been noted for individuality. The type of vehicle which they manufacture is always noted for the fact that it is a little different from the general run of cars.

Some years ago, when the well known Hornet made its first appearance, it created a sensation, and has held its unique position since that date. This year one of the last-minute sensations of the Motor Show at Olympia was the new Wolseley Fourteen. This, under the taxation of £1 per horsepower which exists at the present moment, would make it necessary for the owner to pay £14, but from January 1st he will only have to pay £10 10s. per annum.

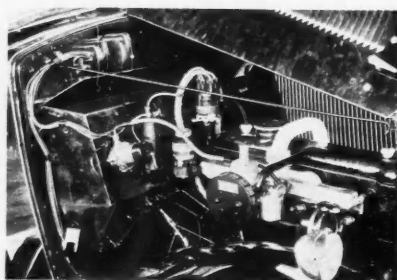
The first impression one gets from this new Wolseley is one of extreme comfort. For a car in this price class the engine is particularly quiet and performs its work right through the speed range without any trace of vibration. It is obviously not a car designed for speed pure and simple, though it has obviously a good performance, and one can reach 65 m.p.h. on the speedometer without much trouble. To get the best results from the car one has to use third gear rather freely, though the car will perform on top gear quite adequately.

The whole vehicle is very comfortable and trouble-free, and the equipment is very complete. Incidentally, this is a feature of all Wolseley cars. In this new Fourteen, for instance, in addition to the ordinary reflector carried above the centre of the wind screen, there is a small circular one fitted on the right-hand side of the screen, so that, before opening the off-side door, one can see what is coming up behind on that side. As a cyclist I strongly appreciate this point, as I am getting tired of having doors opened in my face without warning.

### PERFORMANCE

The maximum speed of the car was a comfortable 65 m.p.h., and on third gear one could reach 45 m.p.h. with ease. Incidentally, third gear was most useful and, with or without the free-wheel, it was very easy to engage. On the top gear 10 to 30 m.p.h. required about 14secs., but this could be cut down very considerably by the use of the third ratio. Generally speaking, second was good enough for starting, as the change from first to second was not so easy. The central gear lever is well placed, and the control for the free-wheel is situated in a very convenient spot just under the steering wheel.

The cylinders of the six-cylinder engine are cast integral with the crank case, while



*Six cylinders.  
61.5mm. bore by 90mm. stroke.  
Capacity, 1,604 c.c.  
£10 10s. tax (1935).  
Overhead valves and cam shaft.  
Four-bearing crank shaft.  
Coil ignition.  
Four-speed gear box (central, silent third, and synchromesh).  
Optional free-wheel.  
Saloon, £240.*

the cylinder head, together with the overhead valves, is enclosed with a readily detachable oil-tight cover. The cam shaft is driven by a single roller chain fitted with a patent automatic adjuster, the drive being taken from the front end of the crank

shaft. Duralumin connecting rods and aluminium alloy pistons are used. The crank shaft runs in four bearings.

### THE ROAD HOLDING

This is particularly good, as the car is sprung to be very comfortable over rough roads at moderate speeds, while at the same time there is absolutely no tendency to roll on corners even when the car is treated very brutally.

The springs are long semi-elliptics, and are damped by hydraulic shock absorbers. The shackle pins and bushes require no lubrication, as they are of the Silentbloc type.

The steering is another very pleasant feature, being light and powerful and giving the driver a sense of confidence at all speeds. It is of the cam and lever type, while the steering connections consist of balls and sockets, while the track rod has self-adjusting ball sockets.

The chassis is underslung at the rear and is well braced by numerous cross members. Rigidity is also obtained by inswept channel sections braced at the centre and extending from the forward end of the frame to the rear spring front brackets.

The chassis lubrication is carried out by means of a high-pressure grease gun.

### GENERAL POINTS OF DESIGN

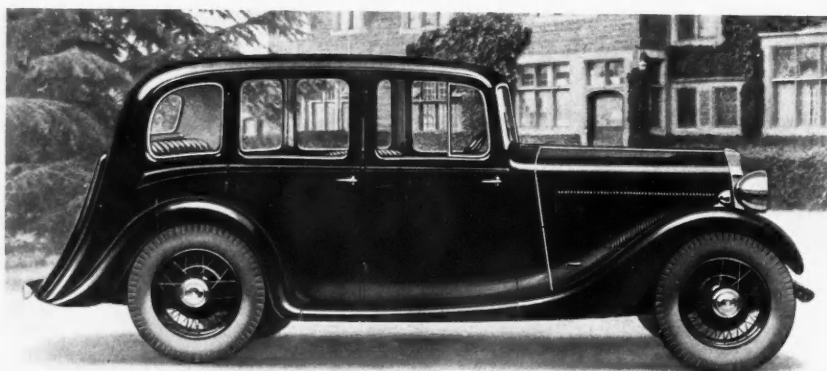
An S.U. carburettor is used, which is fitted with a large air cleaner which also acts as a fume extractor via the cylinder head cover. Petrol is fed by an electric pump mounted on the dash board under the bonnet. An eight-gallon petrol tank is carried at the rear of the car, while a direct-reading petrol gauge connected with the ignition panel is fitted on the instrument panel.

The brakes operate inside chrome iron drums and are controlled by hydraulic pressure on the Lockheed system. The hand brake lever is mounted centrally and is connected by cables to the rear wheel brake shoes.

An organ pedal type of accelerator pedal is used. The direction indicator control is mounted centrally on the top of the steering column, and an automatic return-to-normal device is incorporated in the control box. The horn and head lamp dip and switch control is carried on a bracket extending from the steering column.

### COACHWORK

The coachwork is roomy and well constructed. The independent front seats slide for adjustment, while the back seats are broad and comfortable. Triplex safety glass is fitted throughout, and there are six lights and a draughtless ventilation system in the front and rear windows. Bumpers are fitted at both front and rear of the chassis.



THE WOLSELEY 14 H.P.



## WINTER SPORT IN GERMANY



WINTER IN THE GIANT MOUNTAINS: A VIEW FROM THE HEIGHTS

IT was in the nineties of last century that ski-ing was first introduced into Germany by a party of Norwegian sportsmen, who chose for their ski-ing grounds the splendid open slopes of the Feldberg-Schauinsland range in the Black Forest. Enthusiasm for the sport spread rapidly.

To-day two distinct categories make up the followers of winter sports in Germany. On the one hand are those enthusiasts intent on sport alone; on the other hand there are many who desire to combine sport with other amusement, to learn new customs, to share in the joys of a German winter. Certainly Germany offers unbounded opportunities both for the serious sportsman and for the winter traveller in search of sunshine and the invigorating air of the mountain districts. The Bavarian Alps stretch for more than 125 miles from the Allgäu to the Berchtesgaden country, and in addition there are a number of intermediate mountain chains, every one with its special character—the Black Forest, the Harz, the Erzgebirge, the Riesengebirge—where winter sport has been highly developed.

The Black Forest, with its easy gradients, is ideal ground for novices, although at the same time it provides good sport for the expert. Freiburg, so well known to thousands of English visitors in summer, is also the starting point for the winter sports resorts of the southern Black Forest. Just outside the town a cable railway carries the winter sports enthusiast in a few minutes to the summit of the Schauinsland (4,218ft.), which has its own ski-ing school. Many interesting ski tours can be had to the neighbouring heights of the Belchen and Notschrei, and there is also a newly constructed bob-run nearly two miles long. Most famous of all the Black Forest resorts is the Feldberg (4,920ft.), the highest peak in south-western Germany, where snow conditions are exceptionally good.

The mountains of Silesia, the Riesengebirge, Eulengebirge and others are a district where the serious winter sports enthusiast will find from mid-January until well into March numerous splendid ski-ing grounds and toboggan runs. The interesting old town of Hirschberg is the centre of the district, and it is but a short distance from there to Schreiberhau (4,875ft.) with its three ski-jumps and numerous bob-runs and skating rinks, Krummhübel-Brückenberg (2,952ft.) and Bad

Flinsberg (3,705ft.)—all of them first-class winter sports resorts.

But Germany's *pièce de résistance* for the winter holiday-maker is undoubtedly the Bavarian Alps, where winter sports can be enjoyed amid surroundings which bear comparison with any country in Europe. The picturesque town of Berchtesgaden (3,600ft.), away on the Austrian frontier near Salzburg, can be classed, with Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Oberstdorf, as one of the three leading resorts of the district. From Berchtesgaden or the neighbouring Bad Reichenhall tours can be undertaken up the romantic Wimbach Valley and in the Nebelhorn range at a height of 6,500ft. Skating can be enjoyed on the Königsee lake, fifteen minutes from Berchtesgaden; and a sight of unfailing interest is the feeding of the game at the foresters' huts near the Königsee and Hintersee and at St. Bartholomä.

Some of the most extensive ski-ing fields in Germany are to be found near Bayrischzell (2,630ft.), on the Sudelfeld (6,182ft.), and the whole district around the lakes of Schliersee and Tegernsee is very popular among discerning skiers.

Almost in the centre of the range lies Garmisch-Partenkirchen (2,624ft.), Germany's premier winter sport resort. Here

every conceivable type of winter sport can be enjoyed under perfect conditions. Cable railways take the skier in a very few minutes to the summits of the Wank (5,838ft.) and Kreuzeck (5,416ft.), where there are comfortable mountain hotels.

The fourth Olympic Winter Games will be held at Garmisch-Partenkirchen in February, 1936. New ski-jumps and a new ski-ing stadium have been built on the Gudiberg, and they will be used for the German Winter Sports Championships to be decided from January 17th to February 3rd, 1935.

No visitor to Garmisch-Partenkirchen will omit a visit to the Schneefarnhaus Mountain hotel, 8,694ft. up on the slopes of the Zugspitze. This unique journey is accomplished in just over one and a half hours by an electric cog-wheel railway which runs, for the last part of the route, through the heart of the mountain. The Schneefarnhaus is a modern first-class hotel offering every possible comfort (not omitting bedrooms with own bath), and it has at its doors over five square miles of ski-ing fields where sport can be enjoyed from September till early June. There are nursery slopes, which can safely be attempted by the beginner with only a few days' tuition, and mountain tours which will test the expert to the full.

Oberammergau, the village of the Passion Play, is steadily gaining ground as a resort for the skier who does not require too difficult country; and Mittenwald (3,608ft.)—famous for the manufacture of violins—also offers many excellent runs.

The third group of resorts in the Bavarian Alps is that dominated by Oberstdorf (2,765ft.) in the Allgäu country. From Oberstdorf the longest cable railway in the world carries one in twenty-four minutes to the summit of the Nebelhorn (7,298ft.). Immenstadt (2,400ft.), Sonthofen (2,437ft.), Hindelang-Bad Oberdorf (3,722ft.), and Oberstaufen (2,624ft.) are smaller places in the same district, and from each one of them a variety of easy and difficult runs can be made.

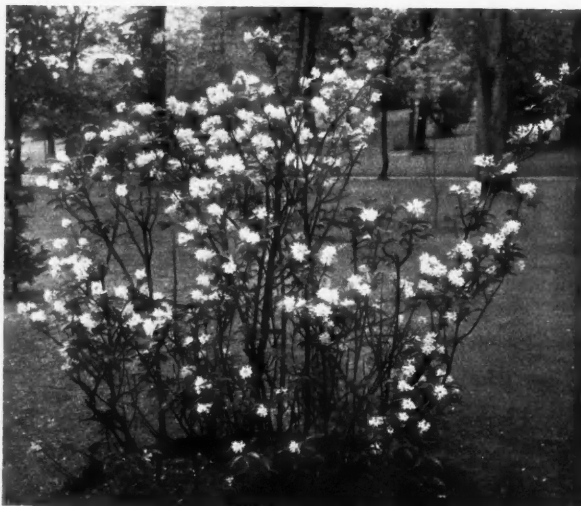
Germany offers a wide choice of winter sports resorts where the traveller will find accommodation in clean and comfortable hotels and *pensions* at rates which will surprise him by their moderation. Skis and equipment can always be hired, tuition is everywhere available, and the holiday-maker who decides to visit Germany will find that he receives a most cordial and friendly welcome.



JUMPING COMPETITION ON THE FELDBERG

## IN THE GARDEN

**T**HE staphyleas or bladder-nuts are not commonly seen in gardens, yet there are one or two of them which, while not perhaps, to be considered in the very front rank of ornamental shrubs and trees, are worthy of recognition by anyone who takes an interest in such things. That they all flower in May, when so many other more showy shrubs are in their full tide of loveliness, is, perhaps, the reason why they are so frequently overlooked. The species from the Caucasus named *S. colchica* is generally acknowledged to be the best of them, though it seems likely to be eclipsed in favour by a recent introduction to the race from central China called *S. holocarpa* when it and its charming pink-flowered form *rosea* become better known and more plentiful. As the accompanying illustration shows, *S. colchica* is a rather erect-growing shrub of stiffish habit ultimately reaching some six to eight feet high, and is quite charming in late May, when the ends of the young shoots are tipped with small and erect clusters of white flowers. Its floral display is not its only claim to recognition. The handsome compound leaves have a certain beauty, as have the bladder-like fruits which succeed the flowers. It is not a difficult shrub to satisfy, and it is well pleased by any fairly sunny situation and a good loamy soil rather on the moist side. The same conditions will suit the much taller growing *S. holocarpa*, which is more of a tree than a shrub, reaching some twenty feet high, and those who have the room in their borders should make a note of it, for it is quite an attractive flowering tree with its whitish pink flowers hanging in short panicles from the ends of the shoots. The common bladder-nut, *S. pinnata*, is tall and vigorous-growing, and is worth a place where there is space, for the sake of its flowers and curious fruits; and the same can be said of the fine hybrid between *S. pinnata* and *S. colchica* called *S. Coulombieri grandiflora*, which inherits all the best qualities of its parents.



### STAPHYLEA COLCHICA

An uncommon and charming tall growing white-flowered shrub from the Caucasus

### A BLUE-FLOWERED PLANT FOR THE BORDER

**T**HOSE in search of blue flowers for the herbaceous border—and their numbers seem to be increasing as colour schemes in blue, white and cream become the fashion—cannot afford to overlook the fine hound's-tongue called *Cynoglossum nervosum*. Growing anything from 1-2ft. high, its leafy stems terminating in short graceful sprays of rich gentian blue flowers, it is a splendid plant for a front-line position in the border, where it will flower generously through the summer and afford quite a showy display, especially when it is associated with delphiniums and anemones, the beautiful Madonna lily (*L. candidum*) and the Nankeen lily (*L. testaceum*) and grouped along the edge with dwarf lavender, the silvery artemisias and the grey lavender cotton. It is hardly less useful for the rock garden, where, if it has a partially shady place, it will probably only reach about nine inches to a foot high and afford a showy display at a time when the first flush of bloom is over.



A FINE SPECIMEN OF THE LOVELY TREE-LIKE STAPHYLEA HOLOCARPA ROSEA WITH DELICATE PINK FLOWERS AT GRAYSWOOD HILL

### A NARCISSUS HANDBOOK

**K**EEN gardeners who treasure on their shelves a copy of his *Handbook of Crocus and Colchicum* will feel grateful to Mr. E. A. Bowles for a companion volume on the Narcissus that has just come from his pen, *A Handbook of Narcissus*, by E. A. Bowles, F.L.S., V.M.H. (Martin Hopkinson, 12s. 6d.). Few can claim to write with wider

knowledge on the narcissus than Mr. Bowles. A connection with the Narcissus Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society extending over a quarter of a century, and some forty years as an active gardener engaged in the collecting, cultivation and critical study of plants, particularly bulbs, form a long apprenticeship, and are a sufficient guarantee of the excellence of this volume. By patient industry and research the author has collected all the available knowledge about narcissi scattered in the works of earlier writers, and presented it in a clear and masterly fashion, supplementing it from his own first-hand observations and practical experience in the wild, in the garden, and in the herbarium. The lore of the early authors he has gathered together is encyclopædic, and to everyone interested in the narcissus his historical account of the wild species, together with a study of their botanical relationships and geographical distribution, and the development and improvement of the numerous garden varieties, will prove as useful and instructive as it is delightful to read. As a work of reference it will be found invaluable. It bears the impress of knowledge and accuracy, and can be thoroughly recommended as an admirable guide to any gardener who wants a sound working knowledge of the narcissus and its history and cultivation.

### A NEW SEASON'S SEED GUIDE

**O**NE of the first of the new season's seed catalogues to reach us is Messrs. Suttons' *Amateur Guide in Horticulture*. Most gardeners are aware of the excellence of this publication, and the edition for 1935 in no way falls below the high standard set by its predecessors. As a book of reference for use throughout the year, as well as a general seed list for the flower and vegetable garden, it will be found invaluable. The numerous well reproduced illustrations are always a feature of Messrs. Suttons' *Guide*, and the novice should find them a distinct help in arriving at his choice of flowers for sowing next spring. Apart from the ordinary run of varieties that are commonly known, there are several new introductions of merit that are worth noting. Seed of a new campanula named *Cecilii*, which those who visited Chelsea two years ago may remember seeing, is offered for the first time. This is a most desirable species of bushy branching habit, about a foot high, with large bells of a shining dark blue veined with purple. It makes a fine pot plant for the cool greenhouse, or can be treated as a half-hardy annual and grown in an open and sunny position outside. Several new sweet peas are also offered, as well as a new *ursinia* called *Golden Bedder*, and a new winter-flowering begonia named *Brightness*, which is a valuable acquisition, as hitherto it has not been possible to offer seed of a fibrous-rooted begonia which would flower during the winter. Seed of a number of lily species, primulas and meconopsis is now available, and gardeners interested in these things should try their hand at raising them from seed, as well as the lovely blue-flowered border plant *Cynoglossum nervosum* which is fully described and illustrated on this page.



THE RICH GENTIAN BLUE CYNOGLOSSUM NERVOSUM IN THE ROCK GARDEN



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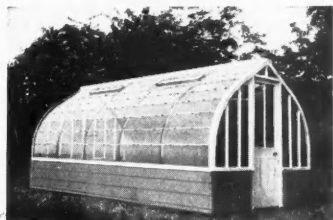
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the least qualm."

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# THE LADIES' FIELD

## Dresses to Wear from Six to Twelve

THE evening in an English winter starts with artificial light—that is, about tea-time; and “evening” dresses have to be devised which can be worn from tea-time onwards, for cocktails, an informal or restaurant dinner, and a theatre or cinema. Perhaps that is why so many materials this winter are being made with a metal thread; silver and gold are apt to look tawdry by daylight, but there is so little daylight now for them to look tawdry by, and so many hours of darkness and artificial light when you must have something gay and glittering to cheer you up. So the dress designers have been creating lots of these lovely, shining betwixt-and-between dresses, suitable for the rigours of an English winter—for they all have long sleeves—but designed to look their best by artificial light.

Two such dresses are shown on this page; either would see you through an entire and varied evening. They are both from Margaret Marks, Limited, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. One is a tunic in oxidised silver, very cleverly cut, with its big heavy sleeves and its slight fullness round the hem; this last is very new, and is a variation on the sheath-fitting tunic of last summer



Tunbridge

A SILVER TUNIC AND A PLUMED HAT,  
FROM MARGARET MARKS



WHITE, BLACK AND SILVER IN A SOPHISTICATED  
FROCK: MARGARET MARKS

which most people will welcome, as less hard to wear. This knee-length tunic is worn over a black satin skirt which reaches half way down to your ankles; worn with a ground-length skirt, it would be perfectly suitable for ordinary evening wear. With this tunic is worn a most fascinating hat, of a type which has not been seen much in England yet, though in France such fantastic affairs are and always have been popular for evening wear. Made of black satin, it has two huge and elegant osprey plumes, standing up like Mercury's helmet wings, or the horns of a Viking. It is not everybody's hat, of course; and it must be worn with exactly the right dress and accessories; worn so, by a tall and elegant woman, it could be a delirious success.

The other dress on this page is equally original and charming. Made of shining oyster satin and dull-surfaced black marocain, it has a wide Peter Pan collar and full sleeves, both quilted with silver thread, giving a beautifully rich effect. The silver motif is carried on in the wide belt. The dress is given an “eveningish” touch by the slit in the back of the bodice below the collar. The subtlety of this dress lies in the contrast between the three surfaces; the glittering silver in the belt and sleeves, the milky gleam of the satin, and the matt heavy folds of the skirt; these contrasting surfaces are being much used and with great effect by dress designers, and are even more striking than the colour contrasts in the same dress which have been popular for some months now.

CATHARINE HAYTER.



# Reville

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A	L	S	E	N	S	P	E	D				
R	O	A	C	H	E	N	T	A	N	G	L	E
P	A	R	O	L	R	A	I	Y				
A	M	B	R	O	S	I	A	G	A	I	F	
B	E	T		N		T	O					
L	O	D	G	E		I	N	C	R	E	A	S
E		N		N	E	P						
A	S	S	E	S	S	O	R	S		I	S	S
K	Y		D		G	W	R					
P	I	E	S		O	B	V	E	R	S	E	D
S	L	E	R	E	A	A	C					
P	I	S	C	A	T	O	R	S		P	E	R
I	E	S	U	T	H	E	U					
N	E	S	S	A	Y		G	R	U	B		

#### ACROSS.

- These are feathered and fly, but though often hit never expire
- Birdlet much in favour with epicures
- Does not suggest that a lad lied but suggested
- An tryst is not grammatical but anagrammatical
- This will submit to a strong pull without fracture
- Tricks that always have their uses.
- A swallow might be expected to listen thus
- What Moses was justified in considering Pharaoh
- Be this reversed for among
- "Outside the — the wet sky hardens"
- A late Victorian play stressed the importance of being this
- All this animal is a species of its tail
- A man from the Nearer East Persia
- Does a certain sect decorate its meeting house with this?

#### DOWN.

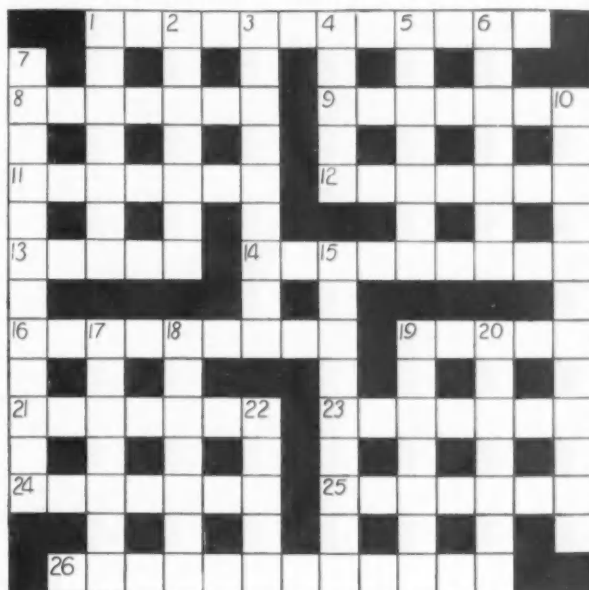
- Consult Horace or Juvenal for these
- Diana of the these may be seen at the Tate
- What baby takes (two words)
- Isn't this the *crème de la crème* socially?
- Two in a storm were popular before the talkies
- A war worker among the ladies
- A London dealer who solves his sales difficulties *ambulando*
- A man was very busy doing this under the Tudors
- Does a royal forester spend his time thus?
- A newcomer not certain of a warm welcome
- A bodily disfigurement
- The Buddhist's ultimate goal
- Recommended to our loving kindness Biblically
- One of the finches.

## "COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 257

A prize of books of the value of 3 guineas, drawn from those published by COUNTRY LIFE, will be awarded for the first correct solution to this puzzle opened in this office. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 257, COUNTRY LIFE, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than the **first post on the morning of Tuesday, January 1st, 1935.**

Owing to press arrangements due to the Christmas holidays the winner of CROSSWORD No. 256 cannot be announced until the next issue.

### "COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 257



Name .....

Address .....

## NEAT DRESSES FOR LONDON MORNINGS

*EVERYONE* needs at least one or two simple cloth dresses to wear under a fur coat for mornings in London, for shopping or exercising your dog in the Park. Such dresses must be plain and dark in material, and practical-looking altogether, but they need not be dull, as the three charming dresses on this page, all from Richard Sands, Sloane Street, S.W.1, show. On the left is a two-piece frock in nigger brown. The material looks as if it were pleated, and the white collar and cuffs, and the leather belt and buttons with their steel finish, give touches of gaiety and sophistication to this simple dress.



*MANY* people find that an entirely dark dress, with no lighter touches of colour, is rather trying to wear, and for them the type of dress illustrated above is more suitable. It is in a brighter brown than the first dress, a cheerful cinnamon shade, very becoming to a blonde; and it has a bib of Eton blue, and can be worn with an accompanying blue hip-length jacket. An amusing touch is the brass chain which attaches the bib to the belt; brass and copper are becoming as fashionable as steel for buttons and buckles and finishings generally.

*A* DRESS which can be worn equally well in London and in the country is a most useful affair. A well cut tweed dress, like the one on the left, will serve this double purpose, particularly if it is in black and white, as this one is, and will therefore look quite smart enough for any morning occasion in London, which tweed in other colours might not do. The dress is finished with a row of buttons down the front. All these dresses are worn with rather noteworthy hats; the turban effect of the one at the top of the page is very new, and the peaked crown of the one on the right is attractive.











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## ASPECTS OF THE SILVER FOX INDUSTRY

### VI.—HEALTH AND HOUSING

THE silver fox has been bred in captivity for the greater part of the present century, and to-day almost every silver fox fur marketed is farm raised. The total world annual output is about 300,000 skins, and of these possibly 1,500 to 2,000 are wild. The animal is in a fit state to be pelted for a brief period during the winter, after which time the fur begins to discolour and the moult commences in the early spring. This lasts throughout the summer until the fox is reduced to a covering of short fur. The new coat begins to grow during August, and prime fur is attained at some period between November and early January, depending on the individual animal.

It will be observed that the moult commences when the strain of breeding is felt, and that the new coat does not grow until after cubs have reached the age where they are able to provide for themselves in the wild state. Nature apparently assists the body of the fox to fulfil the calls made upon it by means of the moult. The nourishment normally required by the fur is withdrawn, the colour disappears, and the hair falls out in handfuls of grey wool, which it is hard to believe was the beautiful fur admired so recently.

It is apparent that the gestation period is a time of strain. The climatic conditions prevalent in the natural home of the fox render it difficult for the animal to select large quantities of food at this time. Practice shows that during the first months of the year good physical condition can be maintained on very much less food than is required during the autumn, but that efficient breeding results are largely dependent on the fox attaining a fat condition by January 1st. To maintain a silver fox in good health it is essential that stock in captivity approximates in physical condition to the state enforced by nature in the wild. If this is successfully carried out by means of suitable diets, good health, good fur and good breeding results should follow.

The silver fox farmer has very little trouble with disease. Silver foxes are immune to distemper as known in dogs or wild red foxes in this country. They are subject to jaundice, which is carried by rats, but effective inoculation is practicable against this complaint. The principal cares of the fox farmer are devoted to ensuring that stock is free from worms, fleas and such-like troubles. Generally speaking, this is a matter of the standard of sanitation which it is possible to enforce. If foxes are to be kept free of worms, action must be taken to intercept the worm cycle of

development. It is useless to pill for worms and replace animals in infested pens, as in two or three weeks the animal may be as badly infested as ever. Earth floor pens are very difficult to keep clean, even in appearance, while in actual fact unless frequently treated and rested a seemingly sanitary pen may be heavily infested with worm eggs and larva of various sorts. Foxes kept in such surroundings cannot be expected to do well. Experimental stations in Canada have carried out a great deal of work over a number of years to determine how best to house foxes in such a manner that worms cannot thrive in their vicinity. Two things are necessary to prevent the worm eggs passed through the body of a fox from developing satisfactorily. The daily removal of all faeces from pens and the maintenance of a low standard of either warmth or moisture in the pen floors. It is manifestly impossible to clean an earth floor pen in regular use with even 90 per cent efficiency, and nothing whatever can be done to maintain an adequate standard of dryness. The Canadian industry lost a great deal of money due to worms in foxes housed in earth-floored pens. Experiments therefore turned to pens floored with other materials. Concrete was found unsuitable, but both wood and wire net floors were found efficient when raised clear of the ground. It was found that foxes placed on wood floors, having about a foot of unobstructed air space underneath were able to clear themselves of worms almost completely in the course of two summers, even though pens were only cleaned out once a week. During the winter little change occurred in the degree of infestation, which rarely increases at this season; but the hot dry weather rendered these floors entirely unsuitable for the development of worm eggs.

It is not to be thought, however, that all necessity for treating foxes for worms ceases if they are housed on board floors; that is not the case. Foxes are fed raw meat, and this is always a possible source of infection. The board floor prevents the propagation of many types of worm, so that the adult stock gradually dies out, and for this reason they form an invaluable asset to the farmer. Worm larva may be in circulation in the blood stream of any beast, and when it is slaughtered and used for fox food, the foxes risk infection. The rancher must always keep a vigilant eye on this matter and periodical treatment of stock is advisable, however high a standard of sanitation may be enforced.

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